

Jordan's Crossing Gazette
Edition 57
June 2009

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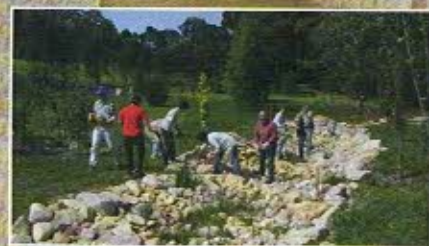
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75

years

of working together

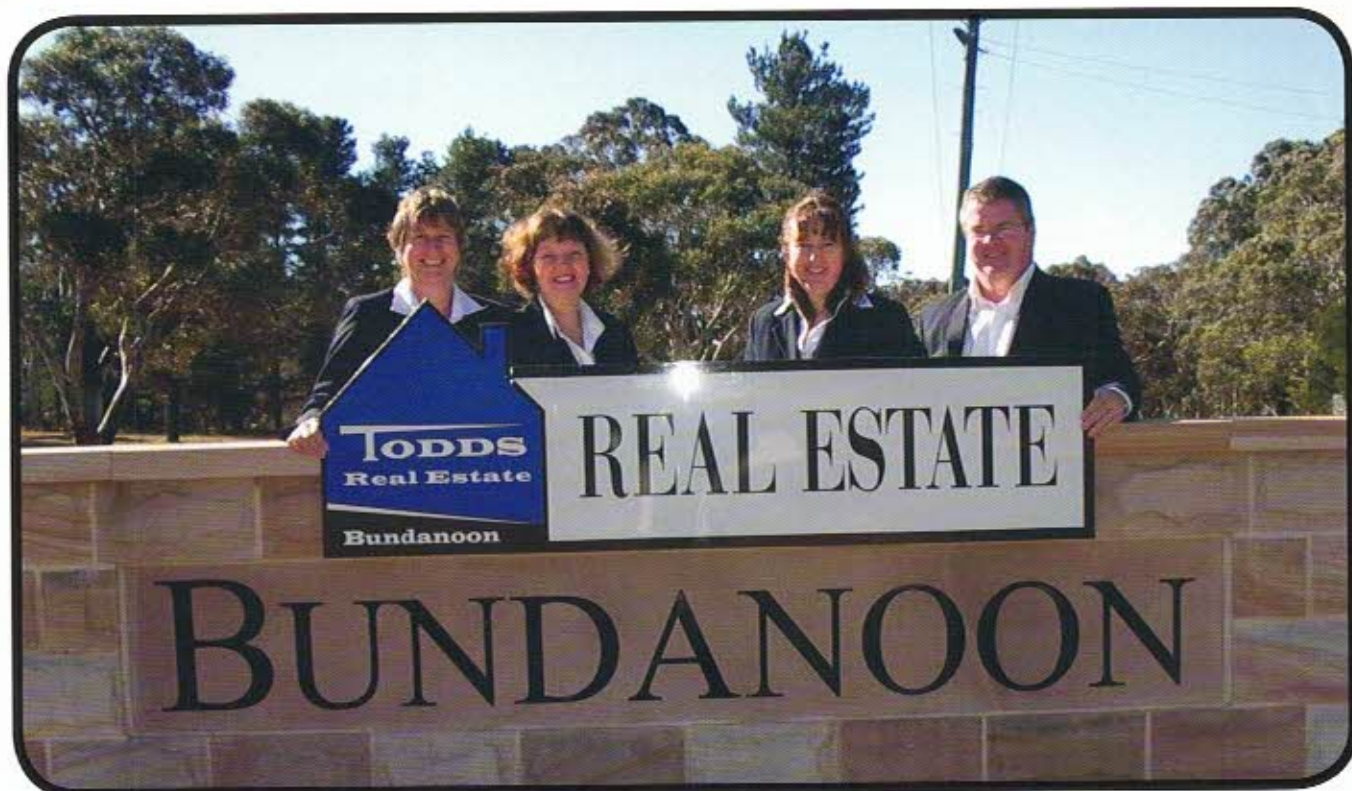
Bundanoon Community Association's big birthday



Winterfest 2009
Discovery Rambles
Why Bundanoon?

Love letter to Bundanoon
School of community spirit
Tribute to Leo Vollebregt

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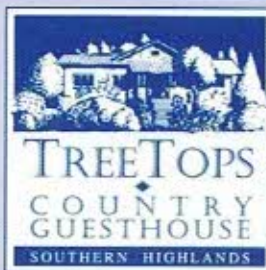
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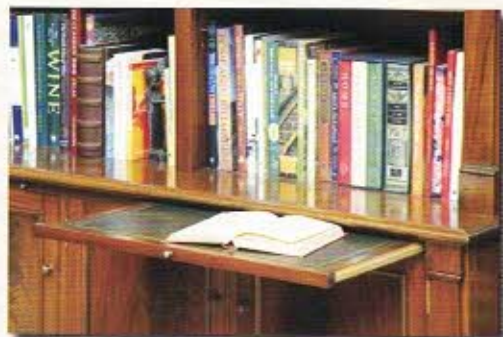
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Pam Davies,
Editor

TO CELEBRATE THE 75th anniversary of BCA we have published the recollections of some community members who have taken an active role in the association during the last thirty years. Although some reflect that many of the same topics are still being discussed now, you will see from our feature articles that the association has grown to be a vibrant organization with a number of sub-groups under its umbrella and an effective group representing the concerns of the people of Bundanoon. A recent increase in membership shows that residents recognize the effectiveness of a community group committed to working for the enrichment of our lifestyle.

Bundanoon Public School has contributed to this issue with Elaine Angel's view on the role of P&C in the community, and School Captains Anna Reid and Griffin Turner share their thoughts on the part that students play in town life.

Leo Vollebregt is remembered and writers Margaret Symonds and Peter Lach-Newinsky evoke the beauty of Bundanoon mists. The community is also celebrated in words and pictures by Danielle Spinks and Peter Stewart, and Ken Hillier's appreciation of Can Assist provides valuable information for cancer patients.

Our Winterfest promotion will encourage you to participate in this annual event which this year includes many innovative activities. I hope you enjoy our anniversary edition and *jcg* wishes to acknowledge the contribution that a number of local photographers have made to this issue.

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Hall Hire

TO ENQUIRE ABOUT bookings and rates for the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, please call Bob Smith, 4883 7786.

BCA meetings

Third Thursday each month:

18 June, 16 July, 20 August.

Start 7:30pm in Supper Room at rear of Hall. All welcome.



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BCA report

BCA's big birthday



Ralph Clark,
BCA president

WELCOME TO ANOTHER great edition of *jcg*.

A fortnight ago we celebrated the 75th anniversary of Bundanoon's community association, although, as explained in the centre section

of this edition, that may well be selling ourselves short. The first such organisation in Bundanoon was formed in 1888. Further research between now and 2013 will determine whether we should jump forward half a century to a 125th commemoration!

At the BCA AGM we recognised some of those who have contributed significantly to our township. In many cases this acknowledgement, the first in thirty years, was well overdue. Those honoured were Lucy Rocca, Richie Tebbutt, Jack Hephner, Dorothy Quigg, David Lidgard, Ray Wheatley, Ken Dowsett, John Royal, Pam Davies and Dale Chalmers (see page 30). It was also decided that the BCA membership year should end on June 30, so now is the time to consider renewing or joining as a new member. The subscription is only \$5.00pa, or \$20.00 for five years. Forms are available at the post office or Bundanoon Real Estate.

You will be pleased to learn that, following lengthy negotiations by BCA, a protocol has been established whereby our town Fire Brigade members will be trained by the NSW Ambulance Service as First Responders. More details will be announced within the next few weeks.

By the time this message is read Council will be half-way through renovation of Railway Avenue, although some poor sections of the road will still need attention. The cycle track in Erith St will soon be extended from the oval to meet with the existing pavement near the station and the 2009-10 budget also provides for road surface improvements. BCA convened a meeting between affected Erith St residents and Council to discuss the cycle track and secured some benefit for them. The BCA Planning group lodged a submission on the currently-exhibited draft LEP and another on Council's proposed 2009-12 management plan and budget. (This document is on exhibition at Council or on its web site until 15 June).

Reluctantly, we have not entered the Tidy Towns competition this year. After population

CONTINUING THE ARTS Bundanoon strategy of presenting a varied program of music in Bundanoon Hall, flautists Jane Duncan and Andrew Bishop delighted the Saturday afternoon audience on 18 April with a selection of pieces from both European and Australian composers. From Telemann, Mendelssohn, and Schumann through Fauré, Doppler and Mancini to Edwards, Ford and Boyd the two flautists, accompanied by distinguished pianist Rachel Valler, OAM, displayed a level of spell-binding virtuosity.

The acoustics of the Bundanoon Soldiers Memorial Hall gave the flutes a brightness not often experienced with woodwind instruments.

Jane's playing of local composer Andrew Ford's "Spinning" on her new alto flute displayed her mastery of the difficult circular breathing technique, whilst Andrew's bright rendition of Henry Mancini's "Pennywhistle Jig" on the piccolo added a little whimsy to the performance. 'Piano at Ten' returned 2 May with pianist, composer and piano tutor at the Goulburn Regional Conservatorium of Music, Noel Jeremy, and on 6 June local pianist and student at the ANU School of Music Andrew Rumsey presents a classical selection.

On the afternoon of 27 June a Bundanoon favourite, cellist David Pereira, will return with a new program.

www.bundanoon.nsw.au/community/arts-bundanoon

The Great American Songbook

4th July Concert, 3pm
Bundanoon Soldiers Memorial Hall

COLE PORTER, IRVING Berlin, George & Ira Gershwin and Duke Ellington are just a few of the composers and lyricists of the 20th Century whose music has delighted audiences for decades. The Great American Songbook has been a source of inspiration for artists such as Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra and Louis Armstrong.

Within its pages lies the expression of every human emotion from the joy of first love to the heartbreak of love betrayed.

The program is to be presented by Serendipity: the Choir, vocalists Bob Pigott and Fran Bosley Craft, and a jazz quintet featuring Steven O'Connell on saxophone, Julian Paviour on trumpet and vocals by Karen Granger.

Tickets \$15, children under 12 free. Tickets available from Todd's Real Estate, via www.bundanoon.nsw.au/community/arts-bundanoon or at the door.

category wins in the past two years our Green Team was hoping for an overall victory in 2009. However, the guidelines have been substantially changed to incorporate a much greater emphasis on sustainability. The silver lining is that an enthusiastic Bundanoon sustainability group has already been formed. They would welcome your input.

The water-extraction case drags on. Locals gave a great demonstration of support when the Court convened in Bundanoon, which was very encouraging for our committee. This tangible community support is an important part of the campaign and yet another example of the great community in which we live.

Another Winterfest is just around the corner and promises to be bigger and better than ever. Don't miss the great atmosphere of the opening night and the many events which the hard-working committee has arranged. I hope to see you there.

Piano at Ten



Saturday morning
10.00am, 4 July 2009
at the

Bundanoon Soldiers Memorial Hall

An hour of chamber music with
Lisa Kawai and friends

\$5.00
Children under 12 free.

ARTS BUNDANOON

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DAVID PEREIRA



Bundanoon Soldiers Memorial Hall
3.30pm, Saturday 27 June 2009

\$15

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Bundanoon Rex Cinema

SATURDAY 18 JULY
See SHIRLEY MACLAINE
in

"IRMA LA DOUCE"



NORLEX UPDATE

FIRST OF ALL, a big THANK YOU to everyone who came to the protest rally on 16 April – the turn-out was fantastic.

The Commissioner spent that whole day hearing evidence on site in Governor's Street. He very carefully listened to evidence given by concerned residents, looked at the planned development on the site itself and inspected the property neighbouring the bore site. Then he re-inspected Governor's Street, questioning the proposed amended roadworks and the effect on trees in the roadway.

The following day, the case continued at Picton Courthouse, with arborists for both sides and a Norlex-commissioned engineer giving evidence.

Commissioner Moore reserved judgement, saying he would be some little time in making a decision due to prior commitments; we will certainly let Bundanoon residents and the media know as soon as we hear.

—Patricia Guy

WANTED ALIVE



Bundanoon residents with a passion for their local community to assist with the presentation of concerts, recitals and visual arts events.

If you have skills or an interest in music, the visual arts, design, promotions, sound & lighting, IT, cash management or photography or can help in other ways please contact Rod or Liz on 02.4883.7777 or rodmor@westnet.com.au

ARTS BUNDANOON



Councillor Jim Clark

council news

Worth the effort

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY of the Bundanoon Community Association is being celebrated in this issue and it is a reminder to me that working as a councillor, one is privileged to meet some inspiring people who put an

extraordinary amount of work in for the community and all for little in the way of personal gain. It is also great to see the other various community groups who work together with one another to utilise the variety of skills they possess. All this adds value to the towns and villages we live in and provides the connections that hold our communities together even when times get tough, and making them such wonderful places to live.

Council has put a considerable amount of effort into supporting Bundanoon's efforts to oppose the Norlex water extraction application over the last few years. The previous council began a long legal battle that continued with the newly elected council and to date has cost around \$250,000 to fund.

Locals have fought long and hard on the "Don't bore Bundanoon" campaign and this has also inspired others to work on a "Bottled-water-free Bundanoon" campaign, where alternatives to our reliance on the use of bottled groundwater are being proposed.

Another long-running saga was the fight to prevent the extension of the hard rock quarry at Exeter where various community members put in the hard yards to represent the local residents. This is only now coming up to a resolution with the quarry now closed and no longer threatening to disturb the amenity of residents, and the resultant compromise land subdivisions about to become a reality.

We all know that Bundanoon's pool was constructed with the extraordinary efforts of local people to build and fund a local swimming facility and it's reassuring to see that Council is currently looking at ways to improve maintenance of all our pools and has finally rejected the construction of a Leisure Centre, as a result of the poll at last year's election.

All of this is as a result of the work of local groups and individuals who care enough about our community to put in the effort to work together on solutions and co-operate to get results for the good of us all.

—Jim Clark, 0428 213 039



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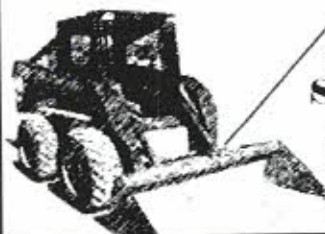
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Green Team

The annual bulb-planting working bee on April 18 attracted 41 enthusiastic volunteers who planted 2000 daffodils, spread 20 cubic metres of mulch and undertook a number of maintenance tasks before adjourning for morning tea.

Their efforts should ensure that Bundanoon's popular daffodil displays will be even more spectacular this year, with new plantings in Bellevue Park, Picnic Park and the Information Bay.

The next major working bee is on Saturday August 15. The Green Coffee and Green Guinness clubs will meet on the second Tuesdays of June, July and September at 9am and 3.30pm respectively.

The Green Team will be taking part in Winterfest in July, leading guided walks along some of its Bundanoon Discovery Rambles (see story page 17) on Thursday 9 and 16 July at 2pm.

—Tony Stanton 4883 7526

The health system can work with Can Assist

IT'S NICE TO be able to write a good news story about health care. The media often highlights the Health System's weaknesses but very rarely its strengths. I hope this article will show Southern Highlands residents that there is a wonderful organisation, Can Assist, at work out there that physically and financially assists with accommodation and transport for cancer patient and their carers.

My experience came about when I was advised to undergo five and a half weeks of daily radiotherapy treatment (weekends excluded) at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney, commencing the next day. Arranging immediate Sydney accommodation and daily travel to the treatment unit at Darlinghurst was daunting; however, I was introduced to Can Assist which helps people who live more than one hundred and fifty kilometers from the treatment point. They own and administer a small hospital and a hostel, in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs and also arrange for passenger transport to St Vincent's and other hospitals. I was accepted on the spot.

To facilitate my treatment I was housed in a small hospital (Jean Colvin) in Darling Point for one week and then, at my request I spent a further four and a half weeks, with my wife Jewel, in a hostel (Ecclesbourne) at Double Bay. I was transported each day to and from St Vincent's Hospital by an ambulance transport bus for treatment. During our five and a half weeks stay in Sydney my wife and I were treated as virtual family members by a wonderful group of Can Assist employees and fellow patients at both establishments. We are now supportive of Can Assist and look forward to providing volunteer assistance to the local Southern Highlands Branch, which has been operating since 1960.

I won't delve into the financial details of the exercise but suffice to say that notwithstanding your circumstances you will be looked after without the pain of financial hardship. Essentially, accommodation and/or travel can be paid for either through your private Health Care Fund (Hospitalisation /Travel), by financial assistance from Southern Highlands Can Assist Branch or through the IPTAS scheme operating out of the NSW Department of Health, Area Health Service. Medicare partially covers the cost of treatment with refunds and a Safety Net system.

I can only say that my treatment was made a lot less stressful by the wonderful Can Assist organization. I would really like to thank them publicly from the bottom of my heart.

—Ken Hillier, Bundanoon



Why Bundanoon?

FOR ABOUT 12 months, Genevieve and I were looking to buy a small business. We looked at businesses all over the country as we were not scared of making a change in location or profession. I have experience in Retail and Civil Construction, and Genevieve's background is in Finance and Tourism, so we were confident that we could tackle just about anything.

The newsagency in Bundanoon popped up in our searching and, for a number of reasons, survived the tough selection process. In the end the short list was between this paper shop or the Post Office on Hamilton Island.

Now I grew up around boats and the water, so it seemed an obvious choice. Right! ...well no!

We came down from Sydney and met with the vendors, Wayne and Mechelle Todd for an inspection and had a quick look around town. We talked (...well Wayne talked mostly) about all things Bundanoon including the paper shop, which even after only a few hours of being in town, was the front runner. I was really attracted to the active community of Bundanoon, and the work that the BCA and various sub-committees do in and around town and also the events held here each year. The idea of a "tree change" appealed to us – so... why not?

We went away from our initial visit and talked, researched, consulted – and decided to try making the Todds a really low offer. That didn't work but we bought the business anyway!

Bundanoon has been such a good move for us, we have met some great people. Genevieve is happy and there are enough trains going past to keep Alexander, aged four, Thomas the Tank Engine's number one fan, happy for a long time to come.

We have been here for ten months and dread going to Sydney for anything.

We have plans to buy a property and build a house, hopefully with room for a horse, some chickens and a couple of cows. I am going to reward myself, after twelve Bundanoon months, with a pair of RM Williams boots, and Genevieve has her eye on a quilted vest.

We feel Bundanoon is the perfect place to raise Alex and our new baby Isabella. We are proud it is the place we call 'Home'. As for the Post Office at Hamilton Island...there really are too many dolphins for me!

—Peter Stewart

Bundanoon Winterfest 2009



Exhibition Of Photographs
at the Soldiers' Memorial Hall

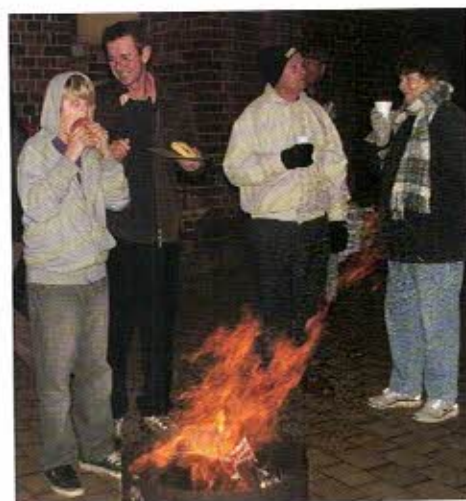
The Essence of Bundanoon

Sponsored by Jordans Crossing Real Estate

On display from Monday 29 June in the
Supper Room of the Hall

Judging takes place 6:30pm, Friday 3 July

The entries will again be judged by Tony Sheffield, photographer for *HighLife*. Come along and vote for your choice of winner for the People's Choice Award. The exhibition will remain on display during the first weekend of Winterfest.



Below: Keeping warm at Winterfest. Photo by John Everett.



Enjoy Winterfest 2009 – two weeks and three weekends of fun and activities!

Includes:

Music – Piano at 10

Food – yuletide dinners, Winterfeast, a Tea Dance, street food

Bundanoon Markets

Fitness classes and bike rides

Workshops 'Second Hand Sunday', rose pruning, bird watching, felting, local history – all run by enthusiastic locals. Don't miss 'The Essence of Bundanoon' open for viewing in the week prior and during the first weekend.

Opening Night – 2ST's Graeme Day to declare Winterfest open - come along, braziers to warm the outside, food to warm the inside, music, street fun, photographic exhibition 'The Essence of Bundanoon' awards.

Garden art for kids – Sue Wilson working with kids to make some wonderful creations for their garden.

The Great American Songbook – concert Saturday 4 July

– a celebration of American popular music especially from Broadway to Hot Jazz and featuring *Serendipity: the choir*. **Art and Design Fair** – to be opened by Harry Pidgeon - the second weekend – local artisans have their creations for sale. Kathy Geurts of Studio Arama will be running workshops featuring new, state of the art materials.

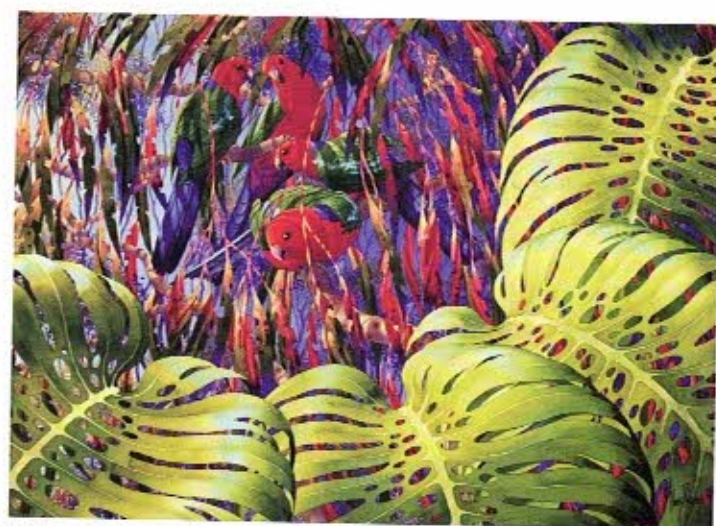
Chooks – Derek Davies sharing his enthusiasm with others in a workshop. He enjoys his chooks – they don't fly, they're easy to keep and they don't scratch in the garden so he doesn't get into trouble!

Bonsai – Ross Miller will share his passion for bonsai – learn how to make small things.

Birdwatching, National Park Walks, and Green Team Rambles around Bundanoon.

Bundanoon History Group – morning tea and oral history

...and lots more! Come along and have some fun!



Exotics, limited edition giclee print by Harry Pidgeon. On display at the Bundanoon Bloomery.



Fashioning jewellery with revolutionary new materials

KATHY GEURTS FROM Studio Arama will be running workshops demonstrating techniques using state of the art materials to create jewellery and objets d'art. Kathy is an accredited CCIP clay instructor and uses polymer clay, precious metal clay silver, copper and bronze, and air dried clay in her works.

Newly developed Polymer clay lends itself to a number of surface treatments allowing the creator a rich tapestry of colors and textures and it is baked in an oven to cure it. Precious metal clay silver is a silver product developed by the scientists at Mitsubishi Motors which when subjected to very high temperature leaves a residue of fused particles which is 99% pure silver.

Contact Kathy Geurts for further information on 4877 1026 or kathy@versacreative.com.au.

Look out for our calendar or visit www.bundanoon.nsw.au for further information and workshop bookings.



Sue Wilson will help kids create garden art



Time travellers

OUR SCHOOL IS a time machine and our students, time travellers, confidently entering past, present and future to learn the lessons that will give them the knowledge, skills and values to navigate through life.

Bundanoon students write with pen and ink one day, and go online live to NASA to research space the next. Learning about their history gives them a sense of identity and enables them to take pride in past achievements while learning from history's mistakes with the benefit of hindsight. Our children discover that good and bad times come to us all and that we have within us the resilience to survive and grow during the difficult stages of life. Past and present events show our students that our community is at its best when sharing the laughter and the tears.

Our school links present and past and is our window into the future. Watching the children of Bundanoon Public School, the future is in safe hands.

—Linda Christison



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Schooled in community spirit

YOU'D BE HARD-PUSHED to find another school in the Highlands, or even beyond, that has such a strong sense of community as Bundanoon Public School. From their first days in Kindergarten students are aware that their school does not exist in isolation from the people outside the school gates. They gain so much from visits by the reading and classroom volunteers, those who help the children learn new sports, and other community members who so generously donate their time and talents to improve the school's learning environment.

jcg asked P&C President Elaine Angel and School Captains Anna Reid and Griffin Turner why they thought a community spirit was important at the school.

Elaine: From the P & C's (Parents & Citizens') point of view, it is integral that we are actively involved in our children's education and the wider community. We encourage parents and community members to participate in our school life and at the same time the P & C likes to be highly visible and involved in community events: Brigadoon, Highland Fling, School Fair, Teacher's Federation Conferences, the Norlex fight, Carols on the Oval, Garden Ramble and the Australian Open Garden Scheme, to name a few.

In conjunction with the school, we identify projects which will benefit both the school and the community. By participating in community events we are able to raise money to help alleviate shortfalls in Government funding, ensuring the education of our children is not compromised by lack of resources in key learning areas. (We provide approximately \$15,000 each year to the school).

Expectations these days of our students and schools are exceptionally high and we not only have wonderful students & teachers at our school, we also have a community full of hard working and very generous people helping us. This is what makes being part of this P & C and our school so special.



Men's Shed: back to school

THE BUNDANOON MENS' Shed Group demonstrated a collective wealth of knowledge and skills, as well as plenty of persistence, when they recently completed a crazy paving project at Bundanoon School. The path is a beautiful feature of the school's new Peace Garden.

Fabulous Bundanoon Quarry sandstone (thank you Steve!), relaxed, good-humoured conversation among the men, expertise and a strong sense of purpose have produced a beautiful new feature for Bundanoon to enjoy for years to come.

Anna Reid and Griffin Turner added:

We believe that as our local community is a very active part of our school we think we should give something back in return. We have many community members involved at our school and other local people support our fundraisers and help in different ways. We help the community in return by singing and dancing at Rosnel and Warrigal Care. Year 6 recently screened the aboriginal film *Kanyini* in the Hall – a moving documentary about Aboriginal history. We take part in the ANZAC Day march and always have a float in the Brigadoon Parade. We perform street theatre for the Garden Ramble, often display our artworks. We also put on fantastic school concerts each year. We often have mufti days or crazy hair days at school to raise money for Stewart House (which helps children in need of a break from their day-to-day life) and at Christmas time we have a Giving Tree at school on behalf of the Salvation Army. Being part of the community is a way of helping people and having fun at the same time!

—Jenny Walker

Learning from Australian Aborigines

IN EARLY APRIL Bundanoon Public School was proud to host a Yarnup with the Aboriginal people who live in the local Highlands community. During the evening the moving film about the loss of Aboriginal identity, land and children, *Kanyini*, was shown, resulting in a better understanding of the reasons why an apology was due to the Aboriginal people.

The 2008 Student Representative Council – Michael McIntosh, Jack Reid, Mitchell Rowett, Patrick Adams, Jade Sparrow and Tamara Baxter – initiated the showing of the film last year, and were joined by the school's 2009 SRC on the night, along with close to 50 local residents, including Aunty Val, who introduced the film.

When they first saw the film, Year 5 and 6 students were moved to write a poem about what they had learned. Patrick Adams, from the Ewuan Tribe, wrote "Living Corpse".

Did you hear the cries of Mother Nature as the kids were swept away in the darkness?

Did you hear the Boomerangs drop as the kids were swept away?

Can you hear the kids being swept with their desperation?

Can you hear the sadness played from the didgeridoo by the parents of the stolen generation?

Can you hear the grass cry as it watches its owners get swept away?

Can you hear the kookaburras cry and whimper in sadness?

Sorry.



Members of the 2008 and 2009 Student Representative Council look on as Griffin Turner welcomes the audience to *Kanyini*.



Mist in Morton National Park by Alan Hyman

Fog is

soft emergence
from dreamtime and back again

Taoist masterpieces
at every turn of the track

floating mystery
that does not threaten

a cloud of unknowing
as physical as drizzle

ocean
quietly breathing up our gullies till we are one with cloud

unexpected oil stains
glowing their dark rainbows on the bitumen like 2-D oyster shells

a matrix of possibility
suddenly spawning facts that float and fade like galaxies from night

fuzzy ear space
containing corvid croaks and our sheep bleating from the lost hill

a paring down
to basics that appear, recede, edge invisible expectations as you walk

spider webs
where hard exclamation marks of curled gum leaves top-wedge
gossamer orbs of tensile lace strung between barbed wire or dead
paspalum stalks still as death or peace catching jewelled grains of wet
air like those little nets Indian mothers fix above their sleeping infants
to catch their dreams

—Peter Lach-Newinsky

Peter Lach-Newinsky's first collection of poems has been published as a \$5 chapbook by Picaro Press ('The Knee Monologues & Other Poems').

Embrace of the mist

The door opens
to the New Year,
to yet another path... untrodden, unrevealed,
even its first steps imperfectly visible.
The new mist, the new year, swirls around and
before me.
I fear that which I can't see, can't control;
the face of young Janus taunts me.
I am beset by memories as ugly as his past faces.

Remembered mists engulf me with shades of
residual wounds,
past griefs, uncertainties, insecurities,
inescapable pain.

I look again at the mist,
the mist of the coming year ...
at its potential to inflict still more sorrow...
then I pause ...
I smell its damp fragrance ...
I recognise its unique beauty ...
I am drawn slowly, wholly, into ...

I allow myself to exult in it,
this precious Highland mist,
a link to ancient times,
to a far-off land,
embracing the stones of timeless henges.

Strange emotions... unidentified, prehistoric,
primeval, racial memory.
Now comforting, reassuring,
the gentle mist caresses me, enfolding me in its
embrace...

I am freed to rejoice in this mist of unknowing ... in
that which is still to be revealed,
to be feared, yet greeted with eagerness.
I rejoice in the present soothing coolness, the
stillness.

I rejoice in the merging of images ...
from a far-off past, and of the present ...
I rejoice in the calming, enveloping, presence;
I am secure inside the protective, concealing wrap.

I rejoice in the beauty of this place
of waratahs, daffodils and bottle brush,
kangaroos nibbling lawn grasses, king parrots
demanding to be fed,
fearlessly pecking from my hand,
dogs walking their owners,
words with passing strangers,
the welcome openness of true friends;

healing, as yet incomplete
but caressing me with a new serenity..
the future to be dreamed about but never seen;
the past not to be revisited if pain is the only
outcome;
the present is tranquil,
the present can be trusted.
The clearing mist heals
and gives way to joyful sunshine.

—Margaret Symonds

Bundanoon Discovery Rambles

BUNDANOON HAS A new series of walking trails that are intended to be a softer option to the many excellent bushwalks on offer in the Bundanoon section of Morton National Park.

Bundanoon Discovery Rambles are eight walks designed to reveal some of Bundanoon's hidden delights to both residents and visitors. Taking from 25 minutes to two hours, the walks cater for all ages and all levels of fitness and were devised by the Green Team.

The Green Team committee – Lynne and David Beasley, Valerie and Phillip Crampton, Rosemary Page, John Brock and Jenny and Tony Stanton – embarked on the walks project last year after a working bee to create an informal track, christened Governors Walk, through the bushland road reserve that links Governors Street and Panorama Road.

"We got so enthused by Governors Walk that we decided to create a selection of walks taking in various aspects of the town," says David Beasley, who was Green Team Convenor at the time. "We also thought it would be a good Tidy Towns initiative because it would promote our environment and encourage people to get out and enjoy it."

All walks start and finish at the railway station and each includes elements of town and country. Although many would be known to long-time residents, Valerie Crampton says that in 18 years of living in Bundanoon, she had never ventured along the Gullies Fire Trail, featured in the Lower Gullies Walk. "It's a delightful walk through a good variety of bush, across a little stream and eventually reaching farmland. I also loved the pastoral views across Eastdene from Governors Walk," she says.

A major attraction of the walks is that all but one is dog friendly. Rosemary Page hopes

this will encourage young families to try them. "My next-door neighbour has a four-year-old son and is very keen to take groups of young mums, children and dogs on the walks," she says.

Tony Stanton, who became Green Team Convenor last September, believes the walks will also be popular with visitors to Bundanoon. "Many locals take our excellent birdlife and abundant kangaroos for granted," he says. "But if you live in Sydney or another urban area, it can be a real thrill to see wildlife such as bowerbirds, lyrebirds or kangaroos, as you will on many of these walks."

The walks are also a good way to take in aspects of Bundanoon that cannot easily be appreciated from a car, such as the pioneer cottages in Erith Street, Jackmans Cottage in Governors Street, the historic graves in Bundanoon Cemetery and the many wonderful front gardens around town.

A map of the walks, funded by the Green Team, and detailed walking notes can be downloaded from the Bundanoon community website

(www.bundanoon.nsw.au/community/activities) and a map/sign will be erected near the railway station in due course. The walks will also be shown on a cycling leaflet currently being produced by Wingecarribee Shire Council and on future Bundanoon Visitors Group leaflets.

The Green Team will be showcasing Bundanoon Discovery Rambles during Winterfest. On July 9 and 16, they will lead groups on a variety of walks. "Walking is fun, it's free and it's healthy," says Tony. "We hope that once people discover how enjoyable these short walks are, they'll try some of the longer walks in Morton National Park and further afield."

—Jenny Stanton



Walkers on the Oval Walk, the shortest of the eight Bundanoon Discovery Rambles. Photo by Rosemary Page.

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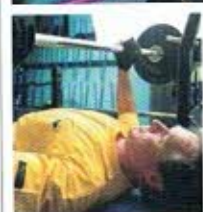
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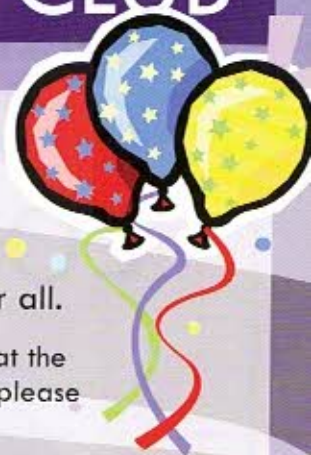
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Bundanoon's only Club turns 60



Our 60th anniversary celebrations will take place in August, with something for all.

Mr John Archer, President of the Royal NSW Bowling Association, will be our special guest at the anniversary Bowls day on Sunday August 23. Past players would be particularly welcome (please phone the Club to indicate your interest).

Dates of other functions will be advertised closer to the event.

We are anxious to collect any photographs, old annual reports etc. If you know of any past members of the Bundanoon Bowling Club or their relatives we would appreciate it if you could ask them if they have any such material which we could copy or pass their details on to the Club.

Peter Kellond or Ralph Clark would be delighted to hear from anyone able to help.



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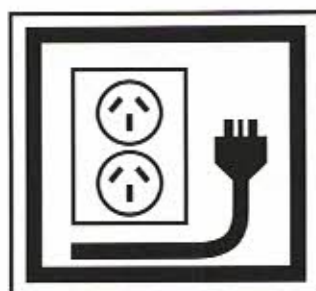


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A love letter to Bundanoon

Danielle Spinks sent jcg a Love Letter to Bundanoon with illustrations. Space constraints necessitated publishing her photographs with an edited version of her words. Ed

TO BE HONEST, I wasn't sure I'd like it.

Yes, beautiful trees. Yes, attractive prices. But what do you do there? The roads are narrow. You could hide an orphanage in the potholes!

Nonetheless, I moved here and realised... hmm, I was um... wrong

Here is my apology. Bundanoon, I love you.

I love all of the things you reveal when I slow down for a minute.

I love your jasmine-fragrant air in Summer, your explosion of flowers in Spring, your postcard frosts in Winter and the whip-bird that comes when I play Mendelssohn.

I love your inky velvet night and her polished constellations.

I love your nascent, autumnal tree limbs in arboreal yoga.

I love your doodles, the coded pencil drawings on the marscapone flesh of your scribbly gums.

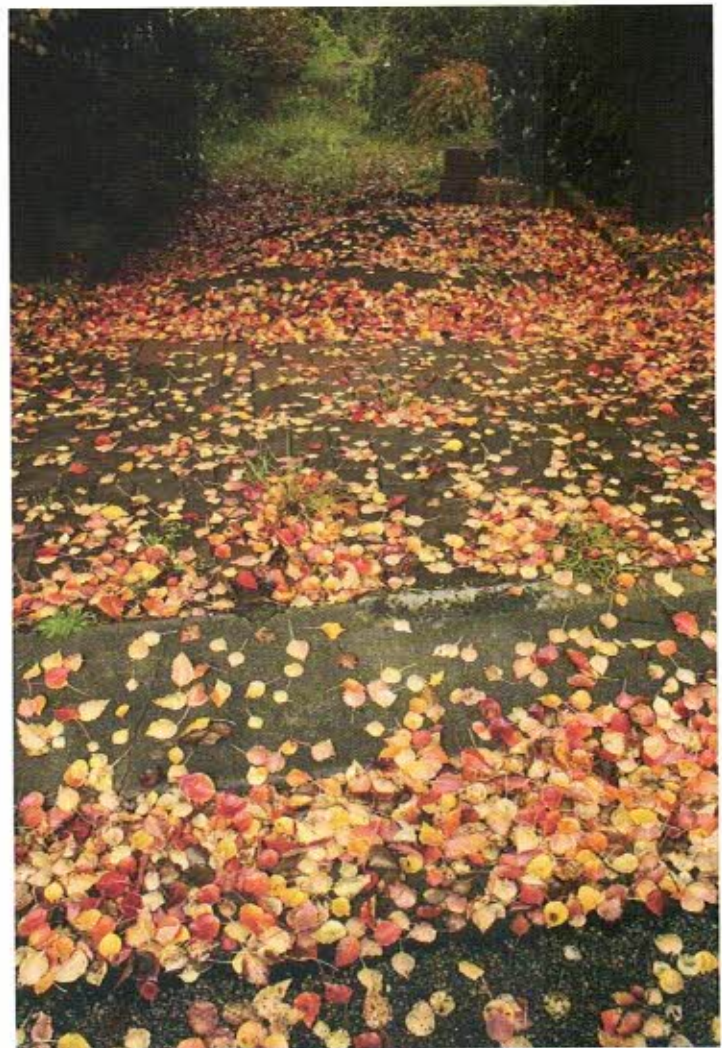
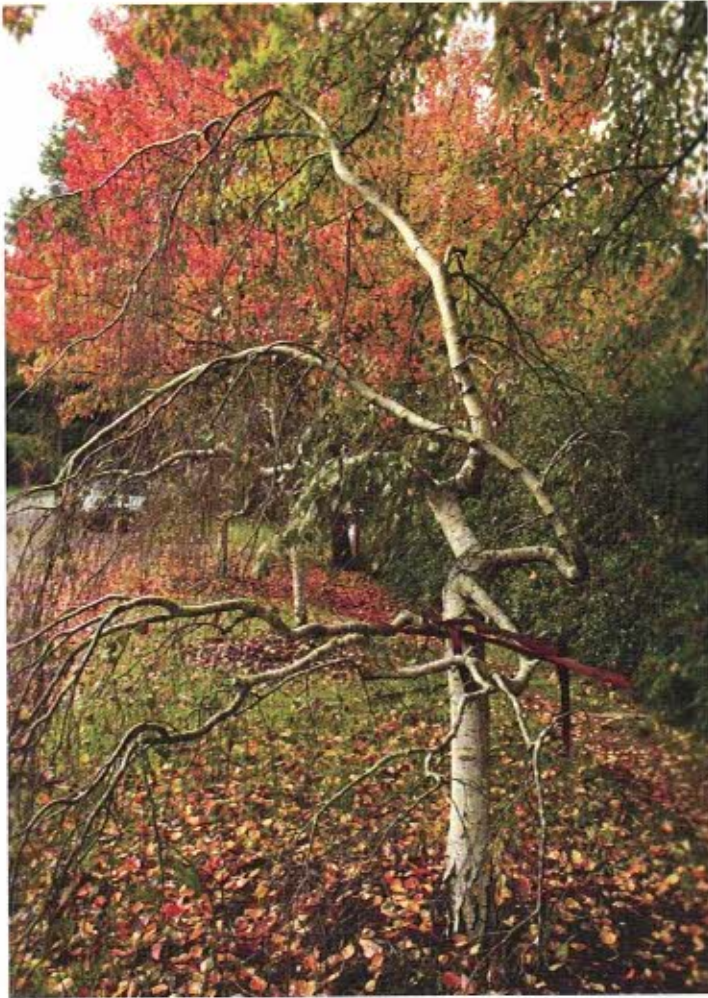
I love your April carpet of red and honey leaves— nature's joyous confetti—that lines the gutters and kerbs and skips along steps celebrating renewal.

Most of all I love your Community.

Bundanoon, I love that you're a time warp, but you aren't backward. You're creative, generous of spirit; you are quiet and kind.

Alain de Botton says to try and find beauty in what's familiar. In a place like Bundanoon, that isn't hard.

© Danielle Spinks 2009



75 years working together

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS LIKE Bundanoon Community Association lend character to regional towns like ours by bringing together people who share common interests and goals. When driving through country areas of Australia, this is often reflected immediately on entering a town.

There is a sense of pride in parks and gardens, in the heritage of old buildings and tourist attractions. The school grounds and the oval are cared for and the main street is welcoming. You find yourself in a place you want to know more about. Bundanoon has all that and is a town where people have always worked, through community groups, to make this a beautiful and interesting place to live.

BCA today

A FEW YEARS ago the word "Development" was dropped from the name of our community organisation, reflecting a focus on improving what we have rather than the previous emphasis on growth. Early members often referred to BCDA as "The Development". The association now boasts a membership of some 400, making the BCA the largest (and I would claim the most effective) such group in the shire. It has over a dozen subcommittees, covering a diverse range of interests and activities. All benefit the town.

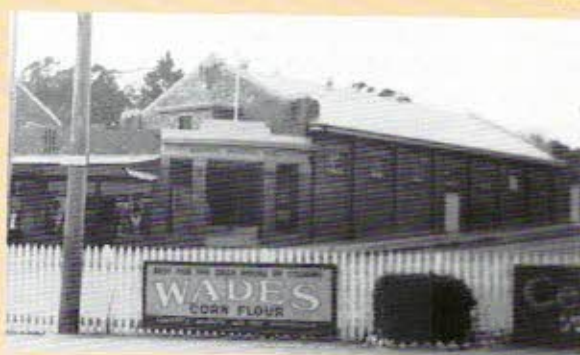
Regular musical and other entertainment is provided in the Bundanoon Hall. Film screenings have been a feature for many years and continue today on our restored 1940s' projectors. The beautification of the town is evidenced by Tidy Towns awards in the past two years. We still maintain the hall, which will also turn 75 in October.

The October Garden Ramble and Winterfest in July are popular fixtures on the Bundanoon calendar. We are immensely proud of our quarterly *jcg* – can any other town of similar size boast a publication of such quality? Yet another sub-committee examines and reports on development matters which may impact the town.

The new BCA logo features the words 'Bundanoon our village'; its goal remains, as it always has been, to make Bundanoon an even better place to live. All residents are eligible, and encouraged, to belong.

—Ralph Clark

President, Bundanoon Community Association



75 YEARS WORKING TOGETHER

The name may change but the goals stay the same

— Ralph Clark
President
Bundanoon Community Association

TWO YEARS AGO I confidently announced that 2009 would be the 75th anniversary of Bundanoon's community association.

The reasoning was simple – the filing cabinet had a copy of the 1993 annual report stating that it was the 59th, leading to some simple arithmetic. Subsequent reports confirmed it.

All was well until comparatively recently when a long-time member produced a program from the 50th anniversary dinner – held in 1999! Suddenly we were two years premature in our celebrations.

Then the Bundanoon History Group archives produced evidence of a Bundanoon Progress Association dating back to the 1890s, and a rival Bundanoon Landowners' group formed in 1892. Were we not early after all, but in fact 20 years late in celebrating a centenary?

We had known there had been a Chamber of Commerce, but then heard of a Tourist Association between World I and World War II. Confusion reigned, followed by a lot of research, much of it ongoing.

The *Scrutineer* of 13 January 1888 reported that "a meeting was held last week at Mr. G. W. Osborne's for the purpose of forming a Progress Committee to have power to act in our interests respecting roads and other matters relative to Bundanoon".

The issue of 10 February 1888 told readers that "the people of our little township, finding it is time to bestir themselves in the matter of ways and means, have formed a progress committee to be called the Bundanoon Progress Committee". E. A. Baker Esq. JP became the first president, with Mr S. Tooth Snr vice-president and Osborne as secretary/treasurer. Interestingly, Baker was the first man to form a Progress Committee in NSW, at the Grenfell diggings. Issues raised concerned roads, train stops and promotion of the gullies as a tourist attraction. Issues which were to be the main fare of the committees ever after.

Nothing further was reported until early May 1890 when "the largest representative meeting ever held at Bundanoon" took place to consider road access to the gullies. It was fully reported by the *Scrutineer*, and followed by a report a week later about forming a deputation to the State Government on the Bundanoon-Sutton Forest road. These events led to the re-awakening of the Progress Committee.

By late 1891, however, the *Scrutineer* reported that "the Progress Committee - Stagnation Committee would be more appropriate - has not met for nearly two months". There followed controversy as to whether meetings should be open to the public and press criticism of the committee's doings, including an allegation from a local that "the Bundanoon Progress Association [sic] ... simply represents the doings of six or seven people who hide themselves from public gaze the people of Bundanoon ... treat it with the laughter and contempt it deserves."

Dissension continued. There was disagreement between Protectionists and Free Traders and no doubt the regular temperance meetings were not universally supported. In 1894 twelve Bundanoon residents joined the newly formed Berrima District Progress Association and in 1895 a Vigilance (later Vigilance and Improvement) Committee was started, but seems to have petered out by around 1900.

By 1905 the group was known as the Progress and Tourist Association. It lapsed in 1908 and re-formed two years later, asking the council for one acre of land for a rubbish tip.

In 1934 the Progress Association morphed into the Bundanoon Tourist Association, with the words "and Development" added in 1936; when the word "Community" replaced "Tourism" we have yet to discover but later BCDA records date 1934 as the starting point.

BCDA minutes exist from only 1972. A current member recalls

Right: Progress
Committee
members, 1906

Below: New
State Park sign,
1930s. Probably
Progress
Committee
members in
foreground



that older records were in a suitcase in the rafters of a garage and disappeared after the owner's death. Some minutes and records for parts of the 1990s are also missing – any suggestions as to where they might be found would be welcome.

The minutes which do survive show that very little changes. The concerns of today, of the 1970s and of the 1890s are remarkably similar – roads, trains and tourism. Membership and support have fluctuated. At times monthly meetings lapsed for want of a quorum. At other times matters of community concern such as a council proposal to build the shire tip nearby swelled the numbers dramatically.

BCDA has always played a significant role in the town. It had a keen interest in "the gullies" – what is now the National Park. Early working bees built paths and facilities which remain to this day.

Fundraising for the Comforts Fund was an important priority in the 1940s when town development took a back seat. Young people were taught to dance in the hall, with proceeds going to the fund. Later there were regular balls, either with debutantes or the selection of a "Belle of the Ball". A BCDA "Younger Set" unfortunately was not long-lived, but is remembered fondly by those who took part.

In 1953 BCDA was responsible for the "rousing celebrations conducted to mark the Queen's coronation. Bundanoon went really gay with processions and a carnival and wound up with a display of fireworks". And more: "Then came three Boronia festivals ... these were graced with processions of floats, queen and princess competitions, stalls and the general run of festival activity".

BCDA lobbied successfully to keep Ferndale reserve, where cricket was played before the present oval was constructed, in public hands. For a number of years it managed and operated the swimming pool and maintained and controlled the oval. Nancy Kingsbury and Picnic parks were developed, as was the arboretum at the entrance to town. A

Richard Tebbutt

RICHARD TEBBUTT WAS President of the BCDA from 1981, replacing Mike Binns, until Dorothy Quigg took over the presidency in 1984. Prior to becoming President, Rich had been very involved in many varied activities to promote Bundanoon. He



remembers that the proposed merging of Berrima County Council (BCC) and Illawarra County Council in 1980 was strongly opposed by BCDA on behalf of all residents and although rates doubled at that time the protest eased further proposed increases. Changes to railway timetables were also an issue in 1981 and with lobbying from the association and assistance of Ron Brewer, MP for Goulburn, changes affecting commuters were amended in 1982.

Rich added "In the same year, the XPT train began to run and it was suggested that this "super train" could pass through Bundanoon at 160 kph. This would make the pedestrian crossing very dangerous for the hundreds of people using it daily. There were no bells or other warnings and two people had been killed in recent years. The Railways suggested installing flashing lights, but Bundanoon wanted an overhead bridge with ramps or an underpass. We got a railway officer who would walk to the crossing to say there was a train coming!"

Among the earlier highlights of Rich's involvement in promotion of Bundanoon as a destination was the first Back to Bundanoon Honeymooners Week in 1970, which was a huge success and in 1971, with the help of his wife Shirley, he organised a major Trade Fair, with stalls in the Memorial Hall. "On Saturday, Railway Avenue was closed and the car dealers from Moss Vale and Bowral set up displays of their latest model cars – the public turnout was outstanding."

BCDA also held many successful carnivals with lots of competitions including men's wheelbarrow races, fastest bed-making competitions, chainsaw contests on open land alongside the Railway Station, pony rides and hay rides.

Rich says "The fairs usually started at 2.00pm with a break about 5.00pm to get the small children home, and then festivities started again at 7.00pm and ran into the night. All were very successful fund-raisers for the community."

Based on interview by Marianne Ward, Bundanoon History Group

government-funded "Bridge to Bridge" beautification scheme gave us many of the trees which we still enjoy, while employing several locals.

Town beautification remains a high priority with the "phantom mowers" morphing into today's BCA Green Team. Sandstone sculptures have begun to appear. The Garden Ramble has helped raise funds and provide enjoyment for over a decade.

Town promotion has always been important. BCDA had advertisements on Sydney and major regional railway stations for many years. A very successful trade fair was a highlight of the '70s. Car rallies were popular, both for locals and to attract visitors: BCDA provided trophies for the car clubs which visited regularly.

The association has leased the hall from the council for many years and has been responsible for many improvements, including to the



Audrey Petersen

DEVOTION TO A town and its community doesn't come more significantly than this! Audrey Petersen, Bundanoon's longest continuous resident, was secretary of BCDA for ten years during the late 50s and early 60s. She was so involved and hard working that Audrey was made a life-member when she finally stepped aside. Of all the activities and achievements by the then committee, of which she is most proud, is their support and work for the town's swimming pool. Backing the initiative and organisational skills of Dr. Harold Cuthbert, Audrey and her team worked tirelessly raising money for the desperately needed facility. They held dances, car rallies, wood chops, street stalls, raffles, a 'town princess' competition and even gave of their physical labour at working bees when construction got under way. Audrey's husband, Christian, designed, built and maintained the pool's filtration system. This recreational jewel, which we (and Council) so often take for granted, is a wonderful legacy from the BCDA of that time. Bear in mind too, that at this time Audrey was also involved in two church committees, the RSL Auxiliary and she helped run the local hockey club, as well as raise a family. Despite the massive efforts and achievements of 'back then', Audrey is overwhelmed by the equally hard working newcomers (residents of only 25 or 30 years!) and the great additions to town life: Bundanoon History Group, Garden Club, JCG and cultural events. She misses her involvement of times gone by, but certainly doesn't miss going out on cold nights for never-ending committee meetings. It is with great satisfaction that Audrey sees the 'torch of community' being carried on so effectively by the residents of today.

Despite all the success, there are two great disappointments that Audrey feels deeply. Firstly, she wishes that local people still had a major say in the control and running of the area's bush and parkland, as they once did and secondly, that the bid to establish a golf course for Bundanoon behind Killarney had succeeded. With all her generous work for others, Audrey, still a keen and capable golfer at 88, surely deserved to realise that dream.

—Ross Armfield

kitchen, foyer and stage. A 1960s council loan was repaid at \$25 per month; more recently the council forewent the remaining \$6,000 of a \$35,000 loan for work on the kitchens. We have always worked hand-in-hand with the council on the hall and other town activities. New doors, a complete paint job, new curtains and blinds are just some of the recent improvements. A grand piano has proved a boon in attracting visiting performers.

75 YEARS WORKING TOGETHER



Erica (née Kalman) and Chris Petersen



Dorothy Quigg

For much of the time she was an active BCDA member, new life member Dorothy Quigg was a familiar figure in the front row at meetings, with her knitting needles in her hands. "I always took my knitting. You can't sit doing nothing when

you've got eight kids waiting for jumpers," she says.

Dorothy, who has lived in Bundanoon for 55 years, is not sure when she joined the association but reckons it must be at least 40 years ago. "The Supper Room was always full for meetings. We were all interested and wanted to do what we could."

It was the era when there were movies at the hall every Saturday night and there was a push to improve facilities for young families. "We were active in getting the swimming pool, with help from Dr Cuthbert. It was one of the best things that happened," says Dorothy, who was also involved with the P&C, scouts, guides and the junior cricket club.

Basketball was a popular sport at one stage and although games were played in the hall, it wasn't ideal because the lights were often damaged. Dorothy fought hard to have a basketball court installed near the Oval but recalls that it was never used for basketball because by the time it was finished, kids had moved on to other activities.

As well as improving facilities for families, Dorothy says the association often discussed the management of The Gullies, because there were no rangers then, and also fought to prevent crown land in the Old Wingello Road and Ferndale Road areas from being sold off.

Dorothy was elected president in 1984 and says a highlight of her stint was winning the Tidy Towns award. "We had a dinner at the motel and I had to make a speech," she recalls.

Although she is still a BCA member, she no longer attends meetings because she is an elder of Bundanoon Uniting Church and its monthly meetings clash with BCA meetings. But she did attend a meeting about a year ago. "They were discussing exactly the same things we were discussing all those years ago," she says.

—Jenny Stanton

Chris Petersen

In the 1960s the BCDA had a very active younger set of members, which Chris Petersen remembers fondly.

"We needed something for the younger people to do around town – we didn't have television in those days," Chris laughs. And from the sounds of it the Association activities more than made up for the lack of electronic entertainment.

"We had dances, at least one ball every year, and car rallies. Every Wednesday night we had something on in the hall – a gym, boxing, basketball. One year I remember when the BCDA was holding a trade fair in the hall, the BMC Dealer from Moss Vale managed to fit a mini cooper into the hall through the side doors. We also used to hold chainsaw races in a paddock between the post office and the railway."

However it is memories of the regular harbour cruises that stand out for Chris. "We used to hire a yacht from Lavender Bay in Sydney – about twenty of us. One Sunday we had moored off Balmoral and David Watson climbed to the top of the mast and out along the rigging and dived off into the harbour. He must have missed the boat only by about 20 inches.

"Another time the yacht hire was called off due to the bad weather, so we boarded a ferry, which used to go to Broken Bay in those days. I can still recall the sight of Bradley Hicks wandering around the deck of the ferry fully decked up in snorkel, goggles and flippers."

Later when Chris became Vice President of the Association, he gained another significant memory: "I remember having to pull Mum into gear at a meeting once. That was pretty funny."

—Jenny Walker.



John Royal



John Royal, now 88 years old and living in Melbourne with his wife Elizabeth, fondly remembers their 13 years in Bundanoon from the late 1980s, and their involvement in village life.

John notes as a satisfying personal achievement the part he played in launching *jcg* in 1995. The eight-page magazine was significant in helping revitalise the BCDA, and the subsequent

quarterly general meetings. A new executive committee, together with a committee of management, comprised of old and new residents meant that "the new voice of the BCDA was being heard loud and clear."

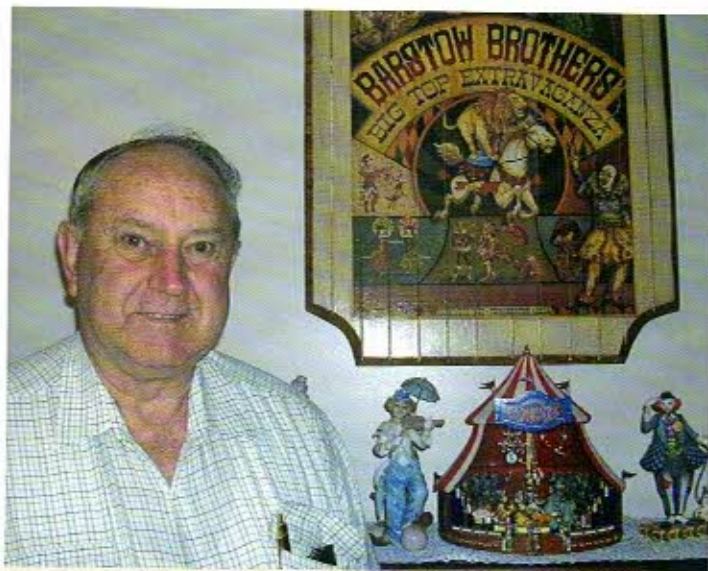
"I was rather sorry to note recently that the 'D' had gone missing from the initials of the organization," writes John. "Town development was uppermost in our minds back then. The Town Planning Workshop, harbinger of the Town Planning Committee, was one of several sub-committees to come under the BCDA umbrella. Rose Figtree, John Hartley and Carol Halstead were among the leading lights."

The Highlands was the second choice of retirement living for the Royals. They had moved initially to the South Coast but felt no connection with their seaside retreat. On coming to Bundanoon they quickly became, in their words, "useful members of the community", maintaining and enhancing the beauty of the townscape, its gardens and surrounds. They joined the BCDA, the History Group and the Garden Club and worked assiduously with the four or five members of the latter in establishing the arboretum at the Information Bay, as well as working on the area along Railway Parade, Picnic Park, Nancy Kingsbury Park, the embankment in Erith Street and the Memorial Garden next to the hall. "One of our last projects was to organise the 'Sponsor a Tree' campaign to mark the centenary year of Federation. Sponsors from the community were invited through *jcg* to purchase trees, mainly deciduous, for planting in the reclaimed area just south of the Information Bay on 14 September, 2001. Among the many volunteers on the day was Hans Davidsohn who made an invaluable contribution with his tractor and backhoe. Local primary school children took part and the mayor and councillors were also present to mark the occasion."

John acknowledges that their achievements were miniscule in the overall canvas of voluntary effort in Bundanoon but he makes particular note of Elizabeth's insistence on keeping the streets and landscape free of rubbish – "we spent many hours with our trailer in tow cleaning up the northern approaches to the town."

They would be amazed to see how their ideas have been so much improved and expanded.

—Kate Perkins



Neil Braithwaite

WHEN NEIL BRAITHWAITE moved to Bundanoon in 1987 to take over the newsagency with his wife Anne, it was almost inevitable he would become involved with the BCDA. "Running the newsagency we were right in the thick of Bundanoon and knew everyone," he says. "The BCDA was struggling a bit and I just wanted to help out."

Within a year of joining the association, he was elected president. Ken Dowsett served as secretary and treasurer and the group embarked on a number of ambitious campaigns and projects. These included lobbying the council for a footpath up the hill in Ellsmore Road and for indoor toilets in the Soldiers' Memorial Hall.

The installation of the indoor toilets did not go smoothly, Neil recalls. "The council did it wrong and water used to flood into the hall after they were built. The council had to resume land and put in another drain – otherwise they would have had to dig up the toilets," he says.

Another major project was the development of what is now known as Picnic Park, opposite the shops. Neil says butcher Mick Eirth came up with the idea of transforming what had been a steep drop beside the railway into an attractive open space, and a willing army of BCDA volunteers turned his idea into a reality. "You would only have to ask someone to do something and they would do it," Neil says.

The construction of the park was completed with volunteer labour and once the land was levelled, the association pressed for a bus shelter.

Neil says that during his three or four years as president, the association got a lot done. "I was a bit more aggressive then and wouldn't stand for people yapping for hours and not getting to the point. But then we got people coming from Sydney and wanting sub-committees for everything and I got voted off," he recalls.

When Neil and Anne moved to Sydney in 1993, he was presented with a pewter tankard thanking him for his contribution to the BCDA. The couple kept their house in Bundanoon, returning when they retired in 2002. Now Neil enjoys the quiet life and pursues his passion for circuses through his role as ringmaster of the organisation Circus Fans of Australasia.

—Jenny Stunton

Picnic Park

ESTABLISHED IN 1993, the park was originally a narrow strip opposite the shops, too narrow to be of any use, while the area of land between the railway lines and the fence was of no use to the railway. Enquiries at BCDA meetings over the years revealed that the Association had been talking to the Rail authority about the possibility of the goods shed and the land adjacent being given to the Bundanoon community.

A committee was appointed to make a submission to the Railways and the Shire Council. Committee member Barry McDonnell had a background in building and design and he set about preparing preliminary plans which were submitted to all interested parties. Although an application for a funding grant was unsuccessful all interested parties agreed to the proposal and work commenced. Chris Hines offered his services as an earthmoving contractor. He weaved his magic bobcat all over the site, pulling heavy rail posts that had been set in concrete out of the way, dumping and spreading soil and in no time had the area ready for fencing and landscaping. Local fencing contractor Barry Brown was the next to offer his services. The site was then ready for landscaping and planting in which Council and the Garden Club took active roles.

Shelter sheds were donated by the Lions Club, Council, and Phil Joice of Sherwood Machinery, and these were erected and painted by volunteers. The Goods Shed became the History Shed and houses archival material pertaining to the village and surrounds.

From a 'Good Idea' to successful completion, the park is one example among many of community co-operation. The Railways, Wingecarribee Shire Council, BCDA, Garden Club, Lions Club, shopkeepers all played their part in bringing this idea to fruition. Irene and Fred Angel continue to look after the rose beds and there are memorial trees planted for Lucy Rocca, who spent virtually all her life here and worked whole-heartedly for many village causes, and Michael Eirth, Bundanoon butcher, fire brigade member, and cricket club stalwart. The park is an attractive place year-round to picnic, or to just watch the trains go by.

Belated recognition should be made of the contribution made by the late Chris Hines, not just for his involvement with the park but for his generosity to the Bundanoon community over many years. Without his input 'The Park' would still be a term raised in the minutes of monthly meetings

—Kate Perkins, with thanks to Barry McDonnell



Chris Dwyer

Kia ora e hoa ma. Tena koutou katoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou.

Greetings friends! Greetings to you all, I am really pleased to say hello to you all and send my best wishes.

Chris Dwyer still remembers the stunned silence that greeted his BCDA Business Plan at a general meeting of the association when he was secretary of that body. However, this

was the trigger for a concerted effort to upgrade the Soldiers' Memorial Hall to the standard we enjoy today. Chris says "It was wonderful to visit Bundanoon last October and to see a vibrant and successful community still moving ahead. It was also great to see and talk with so many friends from that time. Those years were some of the most memorable of my life, and to have shared such a remarkable experience with so many wonderful and supportive people is really what "community" is all about."

"During my years on the BCDA committee from 1993, many notable achievements were implemented.

There was an application to Wingecarribee Council for a loan to refurbish the hall and to install new heating. This included the restoration of the Tru Trim carbon arc projectors, and the commencement of regular screenings (with supper) and a great working association with the National Film and Sound Archives.

The Bridge to Bridge project was initiated and new plantings with maintenance of grassed areas by the "Phantom Mowers" showed Council that Bundanoon was prepared to work as partners to improve Bundanoon.

Annual dinners in the hall, which were an outstanding success, contributed significantly towards paying our council loan ahead of time.

The Basketball Court near the tennis courts came about as the result of community youth addressing a BCDA meeting, and asking for our support. And of course the wonderfully successful and outstanding community magazine, *the Jordan's Crossing Gazette (jcg)* was first published during those years.

These achievements followed the election of Peter Ellsmore as president which led to the formation of a positive and forward looking committee that got enthusiastically behind every project. To have achieved what we did in those early years, and since then, is a wonderful tribute to an incredibly supportive community and the people who have taken over the reins since. I extend my congratulations to all who are involved today. Bundanoon is truly, "a place in the heart."

Chris lives on Waiheke Island, 35 minutes by ferry from Auckland, New Zealand, and would welcome a visit from Bundanoon people he knew during his time here. horik65@xtra.co.nz



Peter Ellsmore

Ellsmore Road was previously named Old Sutton Forest Road, but the name was

changed to honour Peter's grandfather who served on the local council for 43 years, with 19 as President. Having grown up in Bundanoon, Peter remained involved with the village and joined the Bundanoon Community Development Association in 1995, becoming President the following year. He served three years as President, remained involved with the committee for some years and still lives in Bundanoon. Although the Association was committed to community development, much of the focus had previously been on prodding Council regarding issues of potholes and road cracking.

A policy of encouraging greater involvement was decided on and a number of other sub-groups rapidly formed. One of the first of the smaller groups to form under the auspices of the BCDA was the Bundanoon Environment Protection Group which focussed on two main issues. First was the opposition to a number of Council rubbish tips proposed between Penrose and Bundanoon, and at Hanging Rock. Second was the campaign for greater application of the 7(b) Environment Protection zoning to preserve the integrity of the rural landscape from uncoordinated development.

During this period of greater involvement and growth, Jordan's Crossing Gazette started publication and the Bundanoon Rex film nights and the Garden Ramble commenced. Enhanced reporting to members was gradually introduced, not to restrict enthusiasm but to harness energy and to encourage new ideas by any resident or group wishing to make Bundanoon a better place to live. Many more sub groups now operate and in addition relations with Council have progressed, so that the community is seen as a vital partner in many activities in the southern part of the shire.

Peter credits much of the achievement of this period, not primarily to the President or committee, but to the enthusiasm of a wide range of individuals and to the remarkable community spirit of Bundanoon.

—John Desmond



Mark Corbett

Mark Corbett was persuaded by Dave Lidgard, a great advocate for BCDA, to join the association in the 90s. In Mark's words, "Thanks to Dave, before I knew it I had been elected president!" Mark had a young family and ran a successful plumbing business at the time and was on the executive of the local branch of the Master Plumbers Association so his commitment to BCDA required considerable support from his wife Jenny. They both grew up in Moss Vale and after they married spent more than three years travelling the world. Mark remembers they came home only once during that time so returning to Australia and building a house in Bundanoon in 1992

represented a significant lifestyle change. His father had been involved in Moss Vale Chamber of Commerce and Mark fell naturally into community organizations after he and Jenny settled in Bundanoon. During his years on the executive of BCDA he worked with Chris Dwyer to ensure the continuation of *jcg* but it was the coordination of the "kitchen project" that required his expertise. The reconstruction of the kitchen was undertaken with a government grant from the Centenary of Federation scheme and with his knowledge of the building industry he was able to enlist the help of various sub-contractors, many of whom gave their services or worked for reduced rates. It was during those years that BCDA community dinners raised funds to contribute to repayment of a Wingecarribee Shire Council loan which was also given to assist with the project. When asked what he remembered of his involvement with the BCDA, Mark spontaneously replied "I really enjoyed the company of the people I met and worked with!"

And where is he now? Mark, Jenny, Samantha and Aden live at Lennox Head where they are comfortable with a warmer climate and a northern lifestyle. Lennox Head offers a variety of performing arts events which they enjoy, as well as activities centering around sand and surf. The family belongs to the Surf Club and, through Samantha and Aden, Mark and Jenny have become involved in school committees and surf patrol.

Mark has again established a business focusing on the environmental aspects of plumbing and visits to family in the Highlands have become less frequent as the southerners can be easily lured to holidays in the north.

—Pam Davies

Danien Beets

Danien was president of the BCDA from 2003 to 2007. He had only moved from Sydney to Bundanoon in 1999 and despite his 'blow-in' status and young years, Danien never felt any tensions within the BCDA in this regard, quite the contrary.

He sees his time as BCDA president as being focussed on presenting the Bundanoon community's viewpoints on major developments to council, and on doing so in a professional and dispassionate way. He is an architect who feels that this approach was successful in establishing credibility and a mutually productive relationship with council.

During his presidency, the new kitchen in the Memorial Hall was completed, a project which his predecessor Mark Corbett had begun and gained funding for.

Mounting work pressures and concomitant overseas trips led Danien to step down from his presidency. He graduated from the University of Newcastle after growing up in Rotarua in New Zealand. He is now involved in designing equestrian centres and was also responsible for designing the Hong Kong equestrian facilities for the Beijing Olympics.

Danien still lives in Bundanoon. His current community interest is in mountain biking and bike trail advocacy. He is involved in negotiating bike and fire trail issues in Wingello State Forest with NSW State Forests.



—Peter Lach-Newinsky

75 YEARS WORKING TOGETHER

LIFE MEMBERS

AFTER 75 YEARS of existence BCA had granted only four Life memberships, the most recent more than thirty years ago, hardly a true reflection on the great contribution made to the village by many members over the years.

Our only living Life member is **Audrey Petersen** who with the late **Eric Collins** became BCDA's first Life members in 1972. The two others, both unfortunately also no longer alive, were **Barry (Bluey) Shipway** and long-serving Treasurer **Maurie Taylor** in the 1970s.

After considerable research through our limited available records, BCA members present at the AGM unanimously endorsed the committee's recommendation that ten past and present members should be recognised for their contribution over the previous four decades. Two were posthumous, remedying past omissions.

Lucy Rocca was a founding member of the Good Yarn, the History Group and the Garden Club, as well as being involved in other village organisations and her church, Holy Trinity. All this was in addition to her very significant contribution to BCDA over a long period.

was a driving force, including serving as President for three years and vice-president for several terms. Rich and his wife Shirley operated the Boronia café and later a self-serve grocery store, as well as serving as captain of Bundanoon RFB.

Jack Hepher is possibly best remembered for riding his penny-farthing bicycle in town parades. He and his wife Lilly owned and operated the bike shop. Jack served on the committee and regularly attended meetings for many years.

Dorothy Quigg served for four years as president and several as vice-president. She attended BCDA meetings over a long period, as well as supporting other groups in the village, particularly the Uniting church. Barry Shipway was Dorothy's brother.

Ken Dowsett was a man who believed that things should be done properly, and put that philosophy into practice. He was both secretary and treasurer for several years, as well as the first public officer when the association became an incorporated body.

David Lidgard was president for three terms, and vice-president for several more, and a hard worker for many years. He was very involved with the bushfire brigade for a long period and with the Brigadoon committee, and other town activities.

Ray Wheatley has regularly attended our meetings for some thirty years and has been a perennial vice-president for several terms. Ray has devoted many years to BCDA, particularly the hall committee, and to other village organisations.

John Royal is possibly best known for his involvement in town beautification activities. He played a leading role in the original arboretum and coordinated Tidy Town entries. John was someone who always strove to build a community spirit.

Pamela Davies played a significant role in a number of community activities, as well as BCDA. For a number of years she coordinated the catering for our very successful town dinners. Pam has been editor of JCG for the past five years, raising the standard to ever higher levels.

Dale Chalmers was elected to her twelfth term as treasurer at our recent AGM; she also served for a while as secretary. Possibly even more importantly, Dale is the coordinator of our annual Garden Ramble.



Audrey Petersen



Lucy Rocca



Richie Tebbutt



Jack Hepher, with Lilly



Dorothy Quigg



Dave Lidgard



Ray Wheatley



John Royal



Pamela Davies



Dale Chalmers



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Climate change

by Tony Hill

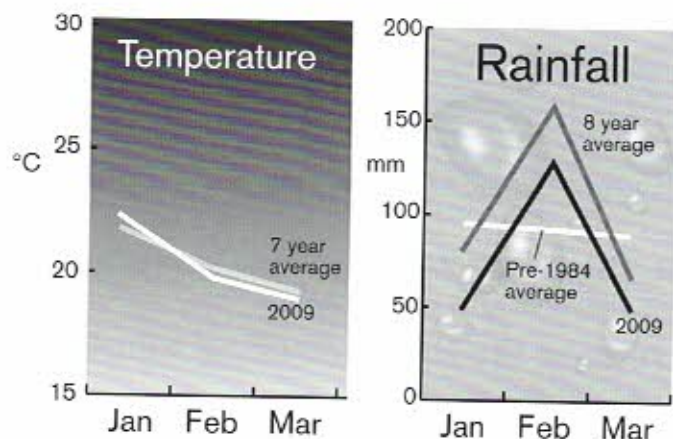
A climate of change

KARMEN AND I drove through Victoria in March. We spent a night beside Lake Hume, a huge man made water reservoir that was designed to retain the runoff from the Snowy Mountains and supply the irrigated fields of the Murray Basin. It was 3% cent full, a narrow strip of water, with the skeletons of long dead trees poking through an arid lake bed. The days were hot and the nights chilly, and they reminded us of the desert weather of Central Australia.

We visited Healesville and Yea and drove through the burnt out forests near Marysville; tall trunks in a blackened landscape where some houses surrounded by bush were intact, but others had been destroyed both in the forest and in open fields. In the 1960s the McArthur Forest Fire Danger Index was created to estimate the severity of bushfire danger and was based on temperature, humidity, wind speed and fuel dryness. The value of 100 was placed on the conditions that caused the 1939 Black Friday fires, and 50 was the level at which a fire became uncontrollable. The index value in Victoria before February's Black Saturday fires was over 200. Temperatures in the mid to high 40s, humidity of 5%, winds of 100 km per hour, and fuel desiccated by the longest drought in history. Those unprecedented conditions caused a ferocious firestorm that left the survivors and the fire authorities bewildered by its speed and intensity.

Southern Australia, including Victoria, comes under a different climate pattern from NSW. It is more influenced by the Indian Ocean and is monitored by the Indian Ocean Dipole; whereas we are in a coastal zone that is dominated by the Pacific Ocean and the El Nino Southern Oscillation Index. The Indian Ocean Dipole is based on the difference between the west and east tropical Indian Ocean sea surface temperatures. Another influence is that the tropics are expanding with global warming and this is pushing the winter low pressure systems south into the Southern Ocean and the winter rainfall that they brought in the past is falling into the sea. The inflows into the Murray River Basin in the past three years have been less than half the previous record low established in the mid 1940s.

An extreme weather event by itself does not prove that climate change is occurring, but the sum of these events worldwide, which have been predicted by climate scientists, is beginning to show a pattern that is exceeding their direst predictions. We do not need to look outside Australia to find some of the world's first global warming refugees; they are beginning to be forced out of the towns and countryside of the Murray Valley, and possibly from the hills and valleys of the forested ranges north east of Melbourne.



Pedalling words

by Huw Kingston

Make it easy (or at least easier)

THERE ARE MANY ways to make the ride just that little bit easier. Incrementally and together they can save you a fair bit of energy! Here are 3 tips for starters:

PUMP IT UP – Many riders pedal around on tyres that are under-inflated. This increases the rolling resistance and slows progress. As an average, mountain bike tyres should be pumped to between 35-40psi. Many handheld bike pumps will struggle to get enough air in the tyre and without a gauge you've no way of knowing. Treat yourself to a trackpump from one of the local bike shops or feel free to pop into Ye Olde Bicycle Shoppe and use ours.

BEND ZEE KNEES – but only a little bit! Most people ride with the saddle too low and the legs too bent. This leads to reduced transfer of energy to the pedal and ultimately sore knees. The correct position is when the feet are in the 12 o'clock-6 o'clock, the bottom knee should be just slightly bent. Too straight and you'll overextend and 'rock' in the saddle and end up with a sore back and sore knees.

STAY WELL OILED – You'll be amazed at the difference a clean and well lubricated chain makes. A dry chain is much harder to 'push'. And use a specific cycle lube, not any old oils you have lying around the garage. Most of these will just pick up dirt and clog up. After each decent ride, wipe down the chain (using a biodegradable degreaser if necessary) and apply the lube. You'll love it!

Cycling on the Map

Cycling continues to boom in the Southern Highlands and Bundanoon is right at the 'hub' of this. Recognizing the recent growth and the future potential, Tourism Southern Highlands have now included cycling as an "Experience" for the region. Along with the likes of Food & Wine, Golf and The Bradman Museum, cycling is being featured in the major publication and website for tourism promotion. Additionally there's been some great coverage of Southern Highlands cycling in magazines and other media in recent months. And by the time this edition of *jcg* is in your mailbox, a superb little publication, Bundanoon & Surrounds Bike Rides, will be available. This brochure, jointly funded by the RTA and Wingecarribee Shire Council, details some easy to moderate rides in and around Bundanoon. Five rides ranging from 10km to 20km are described in detail and shown on a map. The brochure will be a real boon for locals and tourists looking for rides to do in our area.

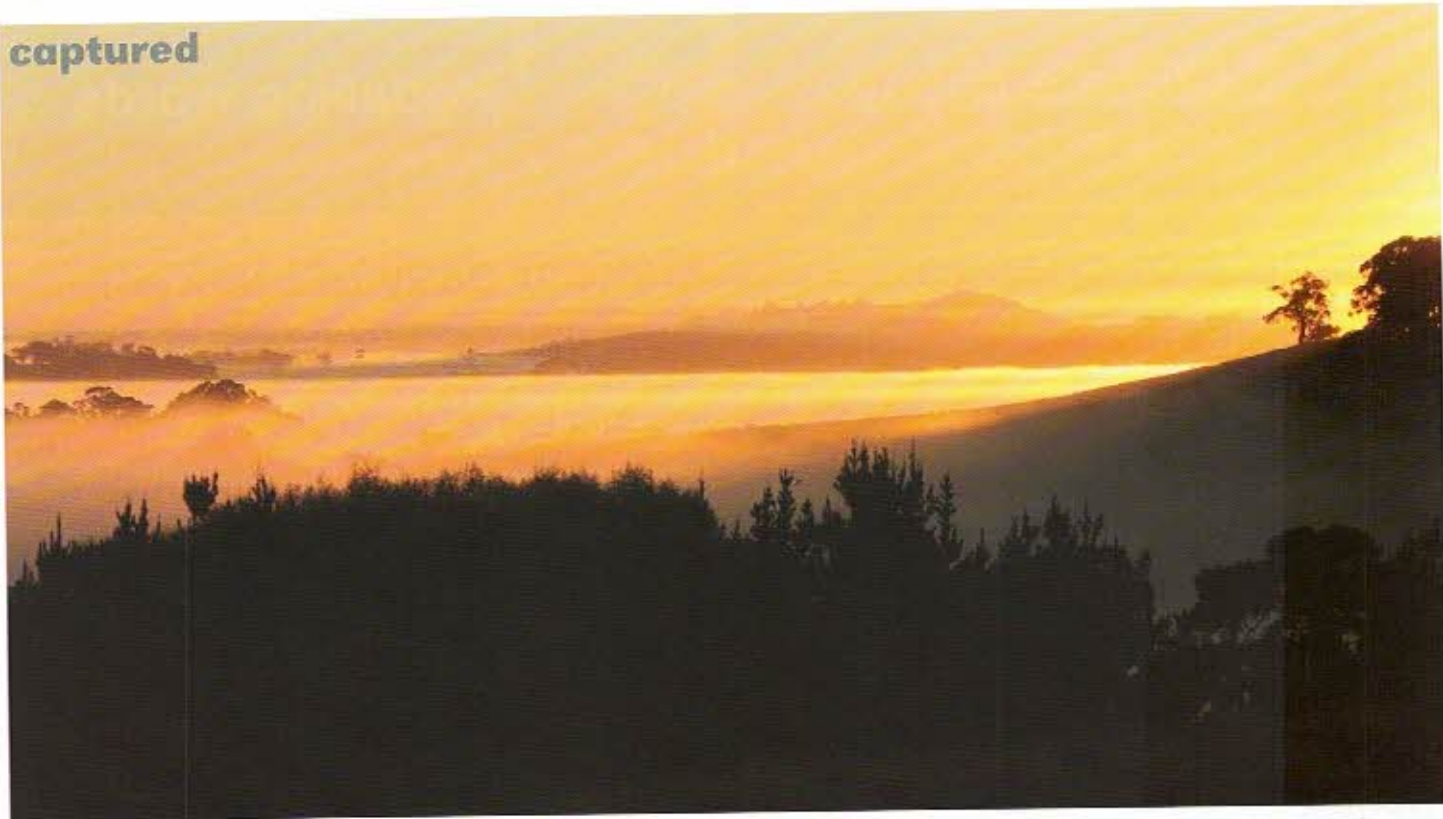


Thinking of Flinging? – Book Early

This year's Highland Fling is on Sunday 8 November. Online entries (www.wildhorizons.com.au) are planned to open on 15 June so if you're up for a Casual Fling, Half Fling or Full Fling then get in early – the 1500 entries are expected to sell out in less than two weeks.

Enjoy the ride!
huw@wildhorizons.com.au
www.wildhorizons.com.au

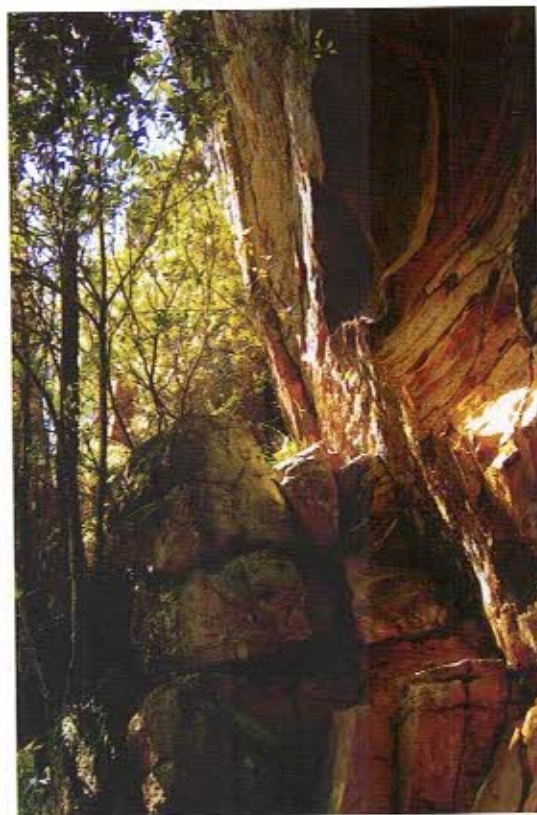
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Above: Sunrise – Exeter, Ken Rooke

Below: King parrot, Alan Hyman

Below right: Kimberleys? No, Morton National Park! Alan Hyman



Speeding. No one thinks big of you.

An initiative of your local council as part of the Local Government Road Safety Program.

49% of all speed related crashes in Bundanoon, Exeter, Penrose and Wingello involve local drivers.
Around 90% of these occur on a curve and involve only one vehicle.*

Please slow down to save local lives and reduce lifestyle affecting injuries.

* Based on RTA crash data for 2003 to 2007

Leo Vollebregt 1931–2009: a tribute

BEFORE LEO DIED in February this year his determination to survive his long illness was legendary in Bundanoon and during recent years he was often seen exercising by running between Bundanoon and Penrose or riding his bike for long distances.

Leo was born in Berkel, Holland and came to Australia after WWII in 1952.

His wife Grada remembers that they met when he came to "pick up a spanner" from the place where she worked. They were engaged to be married when Leo left Holland and she followed him here in 1953.

Leo soon "picked up a spanner" again when he came to work at Petersen's Garage and when Grada arrived they were married at St Brigid's Catholic Church. Grada explains, "At first we boarded at a house in William Street, but later bought a block of land towards the top of the street where we built our first house." Their first garage was on the present vacant site next to the fire station. This was later demolished and they developed the land next to Mildenhall in Anzac Parade. Leo had a local reputation as an expert welder and manufactured metal items as well as running his machinery and car maintenance business. Leo and Grada have been active members of the community and their family, Tony, Adrian, Johanna, John, Richard and Frances all attended Chevalier College. Bicycles of all kinds were Leo's passion and he will be remembered for his long association with the Southern Highlands Bicycle Club and his agility on Jack Hepher's "Penny Farthing" during Brigadoon parades. jcg recognizes it is the continuity of families such as the Vollebregts that has contributed to the character of Bundanoon.



DIY know-how

by Patrick Fitzgerald

The water challenge

ARE YOU READY for a challenge? First you need to find out how much water your household uses per occupant per day. It's easy to pay the water bill without knowing how much you are using because so much of the bill is made up of statutory charges. Once you can calculate exactly how much you are using you can set yourself a target to reduce it by – let's say – 10 litres per person per day.

Amongst the confusing jumble, there are two figures on the bill that are relevant to work out your daily usage. The first is 'Consumed' (top right hand corner) which shows how many kilolitres (kl – 1000 litres) you have used. So 30 = 30,000 litres. The second figure (middle left) is the Billing Period, say: 120 days. Divide the consumed amount by the billing period (eg: 30,000 divided by 120 = 250 litres per day) and divide that figure by the number of occupants, say 2, and you then know that you are using 125 litres per person per day.

Water is charged at two rates: \$1.28 per 1000 litres up to 616 litres per day, then \$1.92 per 1000 litres for any over that – another reason to lower your usage. The figure will vary with the seasons, your garden size and plantings etc. Interestingly, Sydneysiders use an average of 250 litres per day while country users use less: 160 – 200 litres per day.

Now you have some facts – back to our challenge – can you reduce your water consumption by 10% or more? Here are some ways to do it:

- Have shorter showers, and only when you really need one, (not necessarily every day.)
- Use washing machine only with a full load (or even better, install a large laundry sink and recycle the rinse water)
- Use the 'If it's yellow let it mellow' principle in the toilet, and use only the half flush – it is all that's needed – (if not – see your doctor!)
- Keep a bowl in the kitchen and bathroom sinks and shower to catch the cold water while you are waiting for the hot to come through – store it in buckets and water pot plants or the garden with it – you will be surprised how much there is!
- Wash the car with a bucket, and NEVER hose down your driveway (use the broom!)

Electric hot water systems take up about 30% of your electricity bill. This is a good reason to consider taking up the government's \$3,400 rebate (available only until the end of June 09) for either a solar or a heat pump system to replace your existing unit*.

35 households in Bundanoon have already signed up for the \$8,000 solar electric rebate (which doesn't include hot water) – well done Bundanoon!

We can hardly tell Norlex not to take our water if we are not taking care of our own!

* You can call me on 4883 7447 for details on the government hot water rebate.

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Vet's casebook

by Ken Davidson BVSc (Hons)

Bites, stings & poisonous things

THE SIGNS THAT these three problems produce in your pets very much overlap, so much so that vets really have to throw the textbooks out of the window and owners have to stop themselves from rushing to their computer and Googling "sick pet." One thing these problems have in common is that they are all more or less URGENT.

For example, your pet starts to froth at the mouth, vomit, stagger, become paralysed and get the tremors, together with dilated pupils, voice changes and loss of awareness and panting. In a cat this could be an anaphylactic shock reaction even from a bee sting (how many cats try to pounce on anything that buzzes?). It could be a spider bite paralysis (cats love anything that crawls around), or it could be snake bite (there are 3 common species of snakes in the area and two less common ones, all produce varying signs of 'en-venomation'.) To add to the confusion, some garden chemicals produce these signs e.g. snail-bait poisoning. (The blue pellets are more toxic than the green ones but only marginally so. Both will kill an animal quite quickly if untreated.)

The above signs are also common to dogs. Minor changes are that dogs are not severely affected by spider-bites (even the notorious Funnel Web bites are not supposed to affect dogs.) Dogs are very prone to snapping buzzing insects, frequently being stung in the mouth or throat in the process, sometimes with dramatic signs of pain and swelling. Dogs also LOVE snail-bait and will often eat it in preference to their own dinner. The signs are dramatic and will leave their owners in no doubt that the vet should be rung immediately!

Snake bites are common in dogs, who love anything that slithers. I clearly remember a Scotch Collie whose owner lived in Boardman Road in Bowral in the 80s. Their property backed onto the Wingecarribee River. His owner boasted that Sheba was the best snake catcher in the district and had about a dozen snakes all hanging from a barb-wire fence to prove it! Sheba's unlucky number must have been '13' because that was the snake that was too quick for her and unfortunately, she was found too late to be saved. All the above signs could apply to a snake-bite case and should be seen by a vet ASAP.

In dogs, you can add Organo-phosphate poisoning to the list. These were common in the days when 'sheep-dip' was around. There were notable outbreaks of this poisoning following dog attacks on sheep. Indiscriminate baiting with the poison to kill the marauders resulted in a multitude of innocent deaths in pets and bird-life. Unfortunately this poison is non-biodegradable and bones used to set the baits can still be toxic 3 decades later!

In summary, treat any of the signs listed above as serious and urgent. Don't wait for a few hours to see if your pet will 'get over it.' Time is of the utmost importance as most cases can be saved if treated early.

One word of warning: Rat bait is in a class of its own. If your pet eats some, they will not show any signs for at least 3 days. The catch is, if they are not made to vomit straight away, the Warfarin will be metabolised and your pet could bleed to death internally. Don't wait for signs, your vet will make him vomit and with a course of tablets all should be well. Sure beats a blood transfusion 3 days later!



Country living

by Keith McMenomy

'Lifeblood of the Highlands'

LET ME FOCUS beyond the boundary fence once again, but first, some background. The Ancient Greeks introduced democracy, people power, where individual freedom and security was provided through a balance of rights and duties. Citizens were given security and rights in exchange for service to community or State, participating in governance and defence in times of need. This brilliant notion was the genesis of what we call Western civilization. It should be engraved over school entrances. Instead, these days, we hear a lot about rights but seldom about obligations, possibly because history is under-emphasised in education.

Among many things flowing from the idea of rights and duties – give and take – is a sense of community and what the Romans later called *genius loci* or spirit of place. Applying this to our situation, Bundanoon has a rather special community spirit. I think this flows from a higher than average sense of public duty among the populace. For one example, the BCA is a driving force in Bundanoon's welfare and it's sub-group, jcg, from editor down, is produced and written by volunteers while local advertisers pay for design and printing. There are many important voluntary groups and individuals that organise music, films, garden rambles, markets, sporting events, public issues (like the bottled water threat), and highland gatherings, as well as umpteen book-reading groups. All of these contribute to the special quality of life here.

Now let me mention some small groups down the road in my part of the shire that help to keep country spirit alive. Penrose is a small spot on the map – blink and you'll miss it. There are about 400 people scattered around, not all full-timers. Yet we have the Penrose Hall Committee, Penrose/Wingello Playgroup for parents with pre-schoolers, Land Care group, Bush Fire Brigade, Tennis Club and a school parents and friends group. There will soon be a Community Association group, linking up with other smaller villages to address common interests. The Hall committee sponsors barbeques, mid-winter party, hires the venue out for groups and functions, and donates funds to other local groups. Playgroup parents provide activities for pre-schoolers and socialising for younger families. The Land Care group, another dedicated bunch, donate time and energy on weekends to clear weeds and particularly pines from road verges and public spaces. School parents and friends offer support to staff and organise special events to supplement local curriculum. Penrose Rural Fire Service volunteers crew two trucks from their big new shed and respond to fire outbreaks, highway emergencies, undertake training and hazard reduction exercises as well as a 'Driver-Reviver' tent on the freeway. Volunteering for fire service involves effort and a degree of risk but is worthy and enjoyable. If you are a parent, point your young people towards the nearest RFS shed for an exciting part-time interest. Uniforms and equipment are free! The fires in Victoria last summer were far away but our local outbreak, mentioned in the last issue, was on the doorstep of Bundanoon, Penrose and Wingello. We were spared a local disaster thanks to mild weather conditions, massive effort and expense, fleets of helicopters, Rural Fire Service and National Parks personnel as well as local brigades. All of the volunteers mentioned are the heartbeat of communities throughout our shires and this big country as a whole. Bless 'em all!

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True locals

by Vicki Streatfeild

Colin Sheedy

THE WORLD OF kids in Bundanoon in the Sixties was a far cry from their obsession today with Facebook, iPods and Xboxes.

Wingecarribee Council water filtration officer Colin Sheedy was born and bred in Bundanoon and he and his mates had a great time risking life and limb riding billycarts down Constitution Hill and scaling the Bundanoon Pool fence at night for a furtive dip without paying.

Colin's parents Arnold, now 88, and Daphne came to Bundanoon from Wingello in 1952.

Arnold worked at the Butts Garage which was then next to the fire station in Anzac Parade, and later at Petersen's Garage until his retirement in 1986. Daphne managed the tea room at the old Bundanoon Golf Club with Connie Carne.

Young Colin and his mates would frequent the local swimming holes before Bundanoon Pool was built and their favourite spot was off the fire trail opposite Riverview Road. "It was a beauty, it had a waterfall and all," muses Colin.

When the pool was finally built Col and his mates John Carne, Michael Jeffery and Peter Hoss would jump the fence and go for a dip on hot nights. A lot of other local kids had the same idea one night and the local cop, Jock Peterlin, showed up with his flashlight. He found no fewer than 20 kids in his beam. "We all got a lecture, and I reckon if there hadn't have been so many of us we'd have got a swift kick up the bum too," said Col.

The gullies (now national park) were a great source of entertainment for kids at the time and getting there was half the fun. "We used to have billycart races down Gullies Road and Constitution Hill, or 'Conso' as we used to call it.

"Gullies Road was the best as there were some really good corners, especially the one near Camp Orana. It was pretty hairy and we'd end up going sideways around that one, overtaking cars and all. Conso wasn't sealed then, and someone would have to wait at the bottom to make sure no cars were coming down Gullies Road. We had no way of stopping because the billycart had no brakes. We had the odd stack, but nothing really serious".

Weekends were great fun and there were never enough hours in the day. "We'd only ever come home for a feed," Col says today.

Col used to play in most of the local sporting groups including hockey, cricket and rugby league when Bundanoon had a team. He is a keen bowler but now plays socially rather than in competition and spends the rest of his spare time fishing and gardening. Happily married to Michelle for 28 years, they have one son and two daughters.



Through Ross-coloured glasses

by Ross Armfield

The blame game

LET'S PLAY A game! It's called the Blame Game. It's very popular in our society at the moment. It works like this: you go to a hotel and drink until you can hardly stand, stagger outside and fall heavily to the ground damaging part of your body quite seriously. You then blame, (or sue), the publican for selling you the grog in the first place. If you don't like alcohol, don't worry, there are many variations. How about smoking for 20 years, despite the massive health warnings, and then blaming the tobacco company when you develop terminal lung cancer? Or like one player, some time ago, you could ingest drugs until you're so spaced out you dive into shallow water at the beach, having decided that a swim at dawn sounded like a cool idea. You then blame the council for inadequate warning signs when you are confined to a wheelchair. Councils, (and/or shoe manufacturers) are also blamed when anybody, anywhere, trips in a public domain. Fair enough too, they should be doing so much more to protect us from - well - ourselves!

This great game is also played at the highest levels of society. Why, just a few weeks ago opposition 'pollies' blamed the government for an increase in the frequency of shark attacks. However, for me, the best player in recent times was the very well-regarded judge who incurred a speeding fine, declined to pay and instead nominated a deceased friend as the one responsible. Pure genius!

So now it's my turn! For my poor and deteriorating eyesight I blame CDs with black printing on dark blue backgrounds. My hypertension can be blamed directly on Gladwrap and sticky tape rolls with their impossible to detect starting points. Although, I could also bring litigation, for the same condition, against the producers of child-proof lids on medicine bottles and pill containers and the sealed tops of peaches in jars. Pistachio nut growers can expect full blame and a court decision on a massive payout, for the destruction of my fingernails caused by their pathetically inadequate degree of opening on at least 5% of their kernels in any given packet. The largest amount of blame though, for my crook back, is to be cast at newspapers who insist on putting inserts into their pages. I buy my newspaper at the local shop. By the time I get to the car, I've left a 45 metre trail of computer, furniture, hardware, supermarket bargains, electrical goods, broadband, menswear and real estate advertisements and flyers behind me. So, bending painfully, back I go, picking up the now windblown junk inserts like a fuming Quasimodo playing Hansel & Gretel. I mean, why are they always printed on slippery paper? Those newspapers are going to cop it big time! I buy a paper for the news, not for mounds of advertising catalogues. If I want ads I'll watch commercial television!

How about you have a turn now? It's not very hard. Look, I'll start you off. Are you sick and tired of grizzled, middle-aged men who whine and moan relentlessly - endlessly complaining about how things aren't what they used to be and how the youth of today don't know how lucky they are and how when they were young they had it tough and then rant on about how there's no decent music these days etc, etc, etc? You are? Well in that case, you can blame me! Game over.



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CWA report

THE PRETTY BAGS of relaxation goodies have been completed and, with the help of the Lions Club, are on their way to Kinglake in Victoria. Thank you to all those who gave so generously of their craft and other goods. A big 'thank you' also to Peter Stewart for the gift of his Newsagency window for our display. What a great community!

Three members of the Bundanoon Branch recently attended the 87th Annual State Conference of CWA of NSW. There were four days of serious work, debating resolutions brought by Branch delegates from around the State and dealing with subjects of concern such as the use of genetically modified crops and the importation of foot and mouth virus for research, tertiary access allowances and the lack of medical services in rural and remote areas, to name a few. The Guest Speaker at the International evening was the Consul General of the Arab Republic of Egypt which is our country of study for 2009. When released from business, there was so much to see and marvel at in this beautiful area on the edge of the Outback. The Royal Flying Doctor Service Base was a must to see as CWA of NSW has supported the Service for many years. The Flying Padre, Rev. John Blair, is also a feature of Broken Hill as he folds his 210+cm frame into his Cessna aircraft to visit isolated properties, his main goal being to help those suffering depression in the drought affected areas. The Wollondilly Group (of which we are part) drew a lot of attention as we motored through towns in Kennedy's purple bus!

Our Branch is hosting a Cancer Council Afternoon tea at 2.30 pm on 4 June in our rooms so do come along and support a great cause. As the cold weather has arrived, we are busily preparing our goods and goodies for our Winterfest Stalls in the main street on July 4 and 18.

Remember you are always welcome at Craft at 10am and/or our meeting at 1 pm on the first Thursday every month.

—Gaye Everett, Publicity Officer, ph: 4883 7999

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Bundanoon beat

Bushfire duties

THE NSW POLICE Force offered full support to Victoria Police following the bushfire disaster which caused the tragic loss of lives and property across Victoria. "This is a national disaster and at times like this all jurisdictions come together to offer whatever support they can" Commissioner Scipione said.

Senior Constable Buffett and I were chosen due to our experience in rural areas. Following a briefing at the Sydney Police Centre we were met by the Commissioner and media contingents before we were flown to Victoria by Qantas who have provided a great deal of support for disaster relief efforts.

On arrival in Victoria all members of Taskforce Tambus were sworn in as Special Constables of The Victoria Police, and given numerous lectures regarding the differences in powers of arrest, procedures and fire safety. We then travelled to Puckapunyal Army base which was our home for the six day secondment. The Army upgraded us to the Sergeants mess and took fantastic care of us at the base and in the field.

The members of Taskforce Tambus were deployed to Kinglake, Marysville and Whittlesea areas. In the heart of the devastation, working alongside our Victorian colleagues managing traffic, and undertaking roving patrols. Senior Constable Buffett and I performed the majority of our shifts in Marysville, a tourist town similar in size to Bundanoon. The town also had a similar sense of community and willingness to get on with the job. The work was long and arduous but one of the most rewarding in my career. Many new friends were made with other members of the NSW Police Force and Victoria Police.

Around Bundanoon there has been a spate of serious accidents along Mt Broughton road at the bends in Werai. I have provided assistance at one such accident while off duty. The driver wandered onto the roadway in shock after his vehicle left the road and collided with a tree and fence. I have followed the matter up with council and have been assured of better signage and reduced speed limits for that stretch of road. I urge all road users to slow down on the bends, especially in wet weather conditions.

The Bundanoon community spirit I mentioned was certainly apparent during the recent Norlex rally, and also at the Anzac Day services. It was fantastic to see such a large turn out at both events.

—Senior Constable Michael Dietz

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{No January Markets}

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St Aidan's, Exeter Sunday, 9.30 am

St Stephen's, Tallong Sunday, 10 am

All Saints, Sutton Forest

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Uniting Church

Bundanoon 4th Sunday, 11am

Mid-week service & lunch, Thurs, 12.30pm (bring sandwich)

Moss Vale Sunday, 9.30 am

Catholic Church

St Brigid's Bundanoon 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays, 5 pm

..... 2nd & 4th Sundays, 8 am

St Paul's, Moss Vale Vigil Mass, Saturday, 6pm

..... Sunday, 9.30 am

Moss Vale Christian Church

..... Sunday, 10 am

Encounter Group, Robertson School of Arts, 1st Sunday, 2 pm

Iona Christian Community, St Patrick's, Sutton Forest

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Activities and services

Activities

Arts Bundanoon.....	Rod Moore	4883 7777
Bundanoon Community Association (BCA)		
..... President	Ralph Clark	4883 6389
Bundanoon Preschool	Lisa Reid	4883 7074
Bundanoon Public School P&C	Jenny Walker	4883 7998
Bundanoon Visitors' Group	John Hescott	4884 4306
Chess Club	Pat Foley	4883 6064
Country Women's Association (meets 1st Thurs, 1 pm, CWA Rooms):		
..... Marie Reid		4883 6526
Curraunda Wetland Group	Sheila Micholson	4883 6107
..... Wendy Hyman		4883 7763
Friends of Morton Nat. Park	Alan & Wendy Hyman	4883 7763
Garden Club	Terry Bruce	4883 4499
Glow Worm Glen Track C'ttee.	Denise Turner	4883 6650
Green Team	Tony Stanton	4883 7526
History Group (meets 1st Monday, 10 am, Old Goods Shed)		
..... Patricia Guy		4883 6971
Lions Club (meets 1st/3rd Monday, 7.30 pm, Bundanoon Club):		
..... Ralph Clark		4883 6389
Playgroup	Michelle Willis	4883 6162
RSL (meets 1st Tues (exc. January), 2 pm, RSL Rooms at Oval):		
..... Trevor Fenton		4883 6433
Serendipity, the choir	Kerith Fowles	4883 6515

Sports Clubs

Bowls (Men)	John Witney	4883 7356
Bowls (Women)	Doreen Chalcraft	4883 6687
Cricket	Steve Granger	4883 2680
Croquet	Ian McClelland	4883 7916
Pony Club	Leonore Waugh	4883 6669
Rugby	John Luke	4884 4202
Soccer	Sue Brown	4883 6437
Social Golf	Carol Townsend	4883 7380
Swimming	Jenny Walker	4883 7998
Tennis	Cameron Reid	4883 7074

Support & Volunteer Services

Community Health Service	Bowral	4861 8000
Defibrillator Team Contact:	Graham Leech: habitat@hinet.net.au	
(in case of emergency, always dial 000)		
Early Childhood Clinic		4861 8000
Wingecarribee Adult Day Care	Michelle Lindau	4862 1774
Fire Station		4883 6333
Meals on Wheels	Fay Carter	4883 7441
Mobile Library	Moss Vale Library	4868 2479
Red Cross (Exeter branch)	Anna Hopkins	4883 4259
Rural Fire Service (RFS)	Craig Rowley	0427 511 837
RFS Auxiliary	Rosemary Page	4883 6499
RSPCA (Goulburn/Highlands)		0412 475 428
Volunteering Wingecarribee	Judi Rose	4869 4617
WIRES		4862 1788

To update or amend details, please contact Kate Perkins 4883 6422.

What's on info

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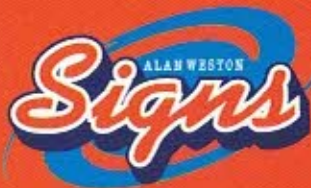
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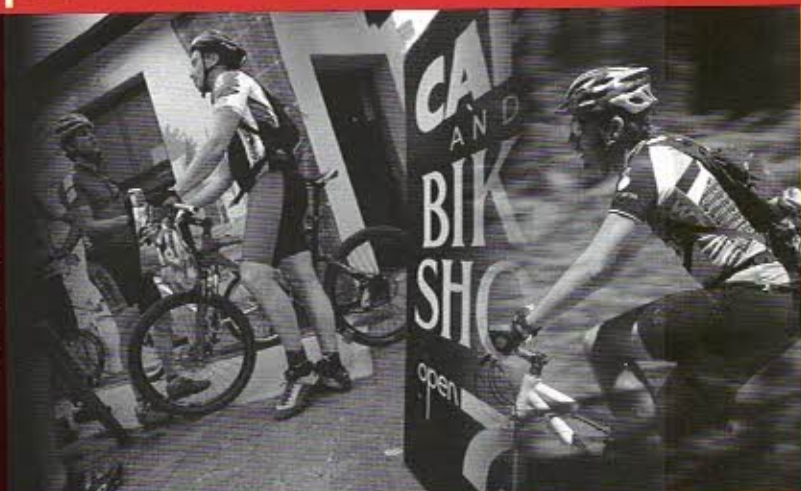
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